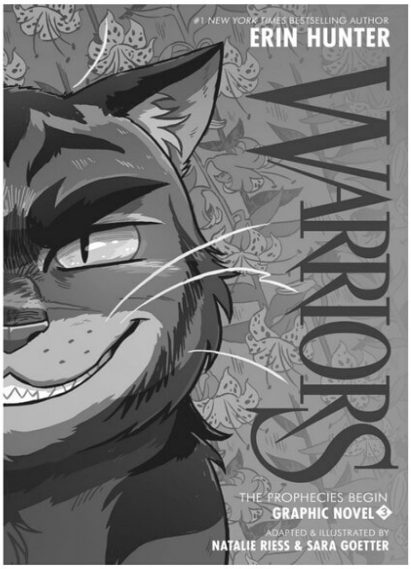
#1 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLING AUTHOR
ERIN HUNTER
WARRIORS
THE PROPHECIES BEGIN
GRAPHIC NOVEL 2
ADAPTED & ILLUSTRATED BY
NATALIE RIESS & SARA GOETTER

DON'T MISS THE NEXT VOLUME



WARRIORS

THE PROPHECIES BEGIN
GRAPHIC NOVEL

CREATED BY
ERIN HUNTER

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This book is dedicated to anyone
who has ever extended a little kindness
to a warrior in need.

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Warriors Graphic Novel: The Prophecies Begin #2
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Sara Goetter used the Zig Clean Color Real Brush, the Pilot Shunpitsu, and the Kuretake Bimoji Fine pen to ink the illustrations. Natalie Riess used Adobe Photoshop to add backgrounds and color the illustrations.

10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1
FIRST EDITION

MOONS AGO...
DON'T WORRY.
WE'RE ALMOST THERE.

THE RIVERCLAN CAMP.
OAKHEART...

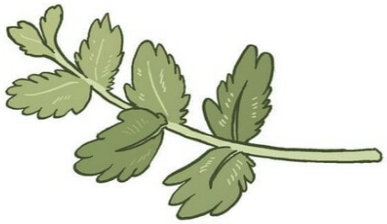
WHAT HAVE YOU GOT THERE?
KITS, GRAYPOOL.
THOSE AREN'T *RIVERCLAN* KITS.
WHERE DID YOU GET THEM?
I FOUND THEM IN THE FOREST.
THEY'RE LUCKY A FOX DIDN'T FIND THEM FIRST.
I'M NOT *MOUSE-BRAINED.*
WHAT CAT COULD ABANDON KITS IN THE FOREST?
IN *THIS* WEATHER?
ROGUES MAYBE?
TWOLEGS?
HOW WOULD I KNOW?
GRAYPOOL, *PLEASE.*
THEY NEED A MOTHER TO LOOK AFTER THEM.

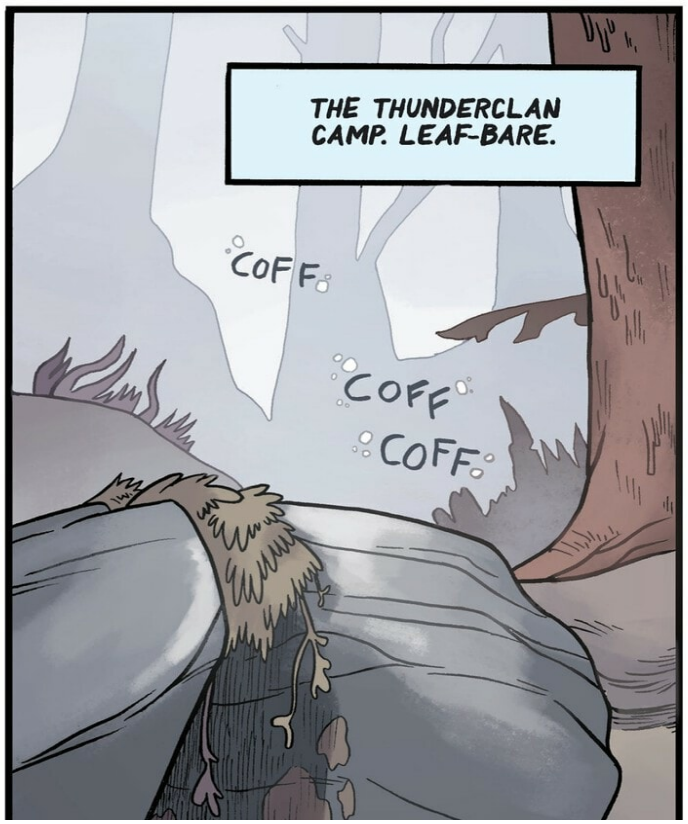
YOUR OTHER KITS DIED...
...AND THESE WILL DIE TOO, UNLESS YOU HELP THEM.
...
...I HAVE PLENTY OF MILK.
OF COURSE I'LL TAKE THEM.
THANK YOU, GRAYPOOL.
I'LL BRING YOU SOME FRESH-KILL.

OAKHEART ISN'T TELLING ME YOUR WHOLE STORY, LITTLE ONES.
MEW!

SNIFF!
SNIFF!
THE SCENT'S FAINT, BUT UNMISTAKABLE.
THESE KITS...
...ARE FROM AN ENEMY CLAN.

PART ONE:
FOREST OF SECRETS





WELL, YELLOWFANG?
COUGH
HOW BAD IS IT?
...
IT'S GREENCOUGH, BLUESTAR.

I HAVE FEVERFEW FOR YOU AND THE KITS, BUT I DON'T KNOW IF IT WILL BE ENOUGH TO BREAK THE FEVER.
HERE.
IT WOULD BE EASIER TO TREAT IF I HAD SOME CATMINT.
THERE MAY STILL BE A PLANT OUT IN TWOLEGPLACE...

I SENT FIREHEART TO GO GATHER SOME.
HISSS!
ROGUES?
NOW?!

WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
YOU'RE TRESSPASSING!
MAKE US LEAVE, THEN!
HA! HA HA!
HAHA, TRY IT, FLEABAG!

I DON'T HAVE TIME FOR THIS!
KREOWR!

rgh!

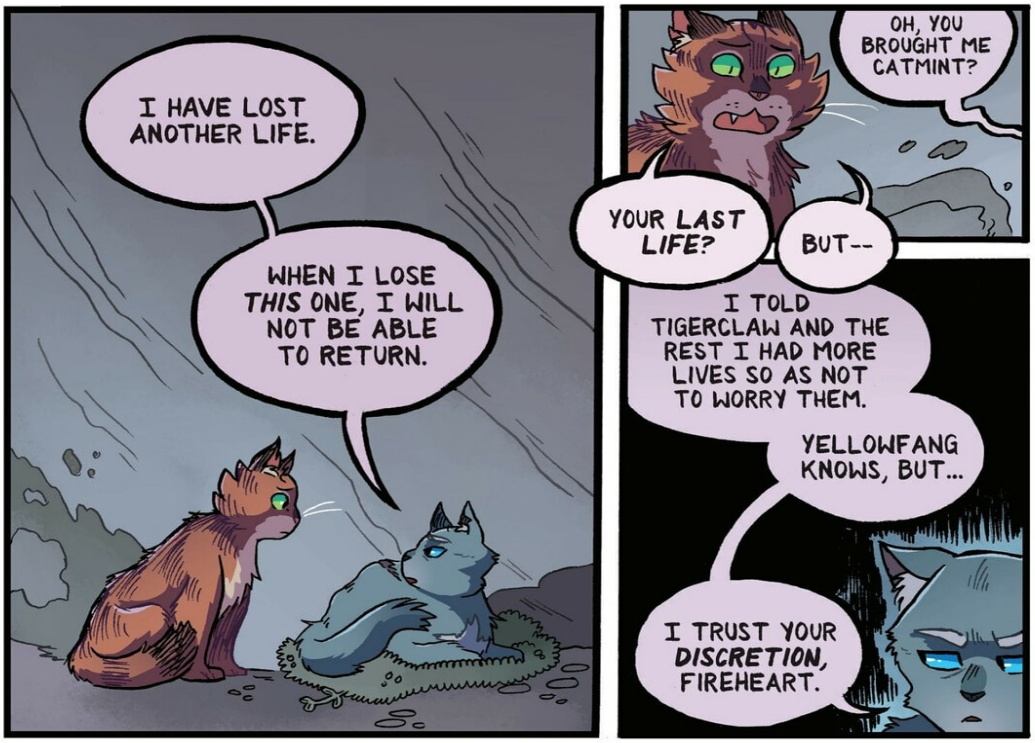
HISSSS!!
YELLOWFANG TOLD ME TO FIND A PLANT WITH SOFT LEAVES AND AN IRRESISTABLE SCENT...
THERE!

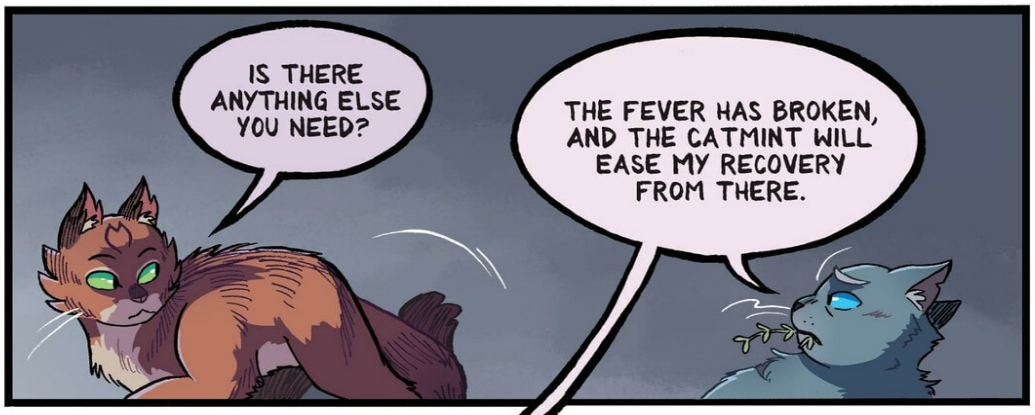
I REMEMBER THIS PLANT FROM WHEN I WAS A KIT...
THANK STARCLAN IT'S STILL HERE!
I LEFT MY CAREFREE KITTYPET LIFE BEHIND...

...BUT I WONDER IF MY SISTER *PRINCESS* STILL COMES HERE.

BLUESTAR WAS ASKING FOR YOU, FIREHEART.
GO IN AND SIT WITH HER.

FIREHEART.
IS THAT YOU?
YES, BLUESTAR, I'M HERE.


I HAVE LOST ANOTHER LIFE.
WHEN I LOSE *THIS* ONE, I WILL NOT BE ABLE TO RETURN.
OH, YOU BROUGHT ME CATMINT?
YOUR *LAST LIFE?*
BUT--
I TOLD TIGERCLAW AND THE REST I HAD MORE LIVES SO AS NOT TO WORRY THEM.
YELLOWFANG KNOWS, BUT...
I TRUST YOUR *DISCRETION,* FIREHEART.


IS THERE ANYTHING ELSE YOU NEED?
THE FEVER HAS BROKEN, AND THE CATMINT WILL EASE MY RECOVERY FROM THERE.

I JUST NEED TO REST.

FIREHEART!
HAVE YOU SEEN CINDERPAW?
NOT SINCE SUNHIGH, WHEN I LEFT TO FETCH THE CATMINT.
I TOLD HER TO STAY IN CAMP!
I CAN'T FIND HER ANYWHERE.
I'M WORRIED...

DUSTPAW CAME INTO CAMP AND SAID TIGERCLAW HAD SOMETHING BLUESTAR *NEEDED* TO SEE.
PREY SCRAPS ON THE SHADOWCLAN BORDER, EVIDENCE THEY WERE HUNTING IN OUR TERRITORY.
YELLOWFANG TURNED HIM AWAY, SAYING BLUESTAR WAS TOO SICK.
CINDERPAW AND I OVERHEARD THEM TALKING, AND...
I THINK...
...CINDERPAW *SNUCK OUT TO GO FIND TIGERCLAW ON HER OWN!*

I HAVE TO FIND HER.
IS GRAYSTRIPE AROUND?
NO...HE WENT OUT HUNTING ALONE.
AS USUAL...
YES.
HUNTING ALONE.
RIGHT.
JUST WHEN I REALLY NEED HIS HELP!
I'LL BE BACK SOON.

THERE'S TIGERCLAW!

BUT NO SIGN OF...

...CINDERPAW?

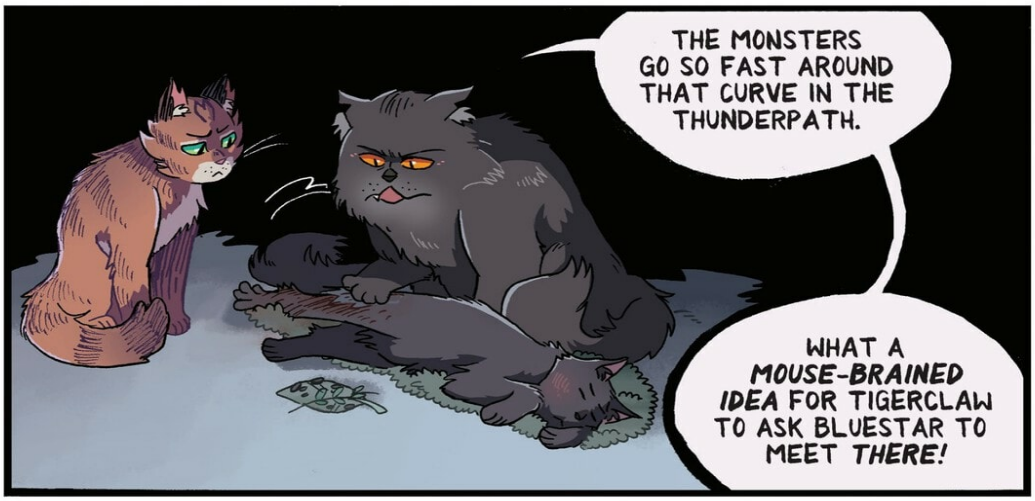
CINDERPAW!!!
FIREHEART?

WHERE'S BLUESTAR?
I FOUND PREY SCRAPS LEFT ON THE BORDER BY SHADOWCLAN--
!
SHE'S STILL ALIVE.
WHAT WAS YOUR APPRENTICE DOING OUT HERE?!
SHE CAME LOOKING FOR YOU!

YOU MEAN YOU SENT HER HERE!?
NO! I TOLD HER TO STAY IN CAMP!
WHY DIDN'T SHE LISTEN TO ME?
WE...
WE HAVE TO GET HER HOME.
CINDERPAW IS HURT VERY BADLY.

BUT I MIGHT BE ABLE TO SAVE HER.
FETCH ME SOME POPPY SEEDS FROM THAT PILE.

YOU SAID THE MONSTER STRUCK HER BY *THE BURNT ASH?*
BACK WHEN I WAS A MEDICINE CAT IN SHADOWCLAN, THEY KNEW TO AVOID THAT SPOT.
MANY CATS WERE HURT THERE BY *CARELESS TWOLEGS.*


THE MONSTERS GO SO FAST AROUND THAT CURVE IN THE THUNDERPATH.
WHAT A *MOUSE-BRAINED IDEA* FOR TIGERCLAW TO ASK BLUESTAR TO MEET *THERE!*

HMPH.
I'LL DO WHAT I CAN HERE, BUT I'M NOT MAKING ANY PROMISES.
AS FOR YOU...
YOU'VE BEEN ALL OVER THE TERRITORY TODAY.
YOU LOOK LIKE YESTERDAY'S FRESH-KILL.

GET SOME REST.

FLOP!
WHY DID TIGERCLAW *NEED* BLUESTAR OUT BY THE THUNDERPATH?
BLUESTAR *TRUSTS* HIM. SHE WOULD BELIEVE HER OWN DEPUTY ABOUT THE SHADOWCLAN EVIDENCE.
WAS HE HOPING *SHE* WOULD GET HIT BY A MONSTER, AND *LOSE ANOTHER LIFE*...
...BRINGING HIM ONE PAWSTEP CLOSER TO BEING LEADER OF THUNDERCLAN?

SO THEN I SAID,
"NO, SILVERSTREAM, YOU HAVE THE SOFTEST FUR!"
AND SHE SAID--
"OH GRAYSTRIPE, YOU'RE SO CUTE!"
"IF ONLY MY FATHER, CROOKEDSTAR, APPROVED OF--"
FOCUS, GRAYSTRIPE. I'M TRYING TO HUNT SOME PREY TO BRING BACK TO CINDERPAW.
SWAT!
AND YOU HAVE TO KEEP IT DOWN ABOUT YOUR RIVERCLAN FRIEND.
WHAT IF TIGERCLAW FOUND OUT ABOUT YOU TWO?
I KNOW, I KNOW.
DO YOU STILL THINK HE...
...Y'KNOW...
YES.

RAVENPAW WOULDN'T LIE ABOUT SOMETHING AS BIG AS THE MURDER OF A FORMER THUNDERCLAN DEPUTY.
I DON'T KNOW...
HAVE YOU TOLD BLUESTAR YET?
I CAN'T, WITH TIGERCLAW HANGING AROUND HER ALL THE TIME!
IT JUST DOESN'T ADD UP...TIGERCLAW SAID THAT OAKHEART, THE OLD RIVERCLAN DEPUTY, KILLED REDTAIL.
BUT ACCORDING TO RAVENPAW, TIGERCLAW KILLED REDTAIL, AND OAKHEART WAS NOWHERE TO BE SEEN.
SO HOW DID OAKHEART DIE, THEN?
OAKHEART?
SILVERSTREAM'S BEST FRIEND IS OAKHEART'S DAUGHTER!
EYE-ROLL...
WAIT...
GRAYSTRIPE, THIS IS PERFECT!

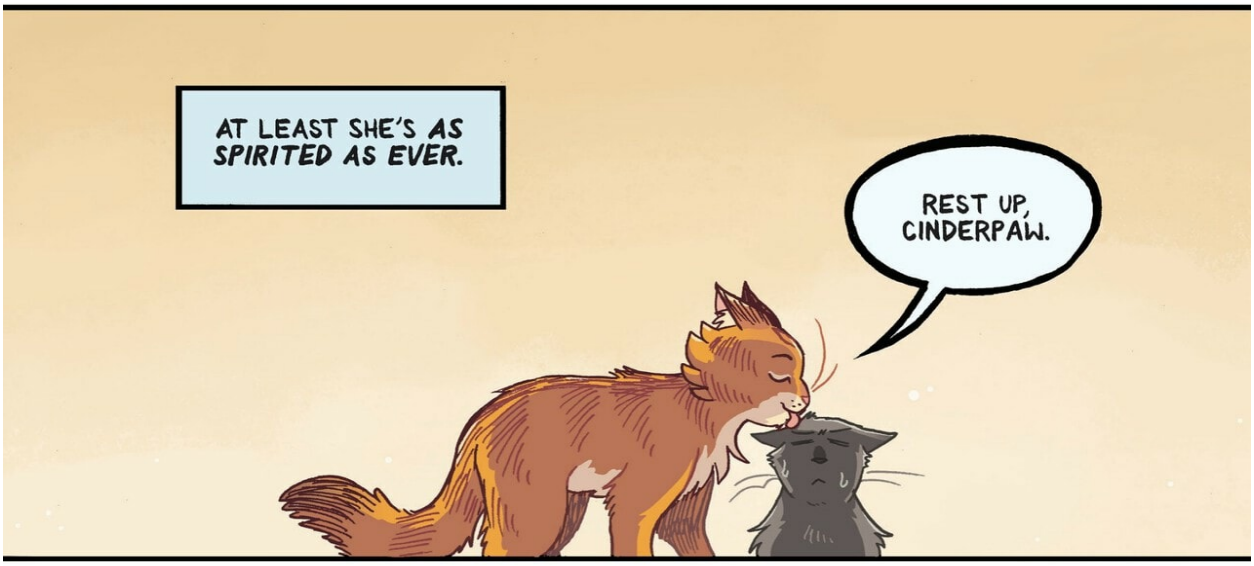
A RIVERCLAN CAT WOULD KNOW WHAT HAPPENED, AND SHE WOULDN'T HAVE ANY REASON TO LIE ABOUT IT.
CAN YOU SET UP A MEETING BETWEEN US?
I THOUGHT YOU WANTED ME TO STAY AWAY FROM SILVERSTREAM.
I DO.
YOU'RE BREAKING THE WARRIOR CODE BY SNEAKING OUT TO BE WITH A CAT FROM ANOTHER CLAN.
BUT IF NO CAT INVESTIGATES THIS, ALL OF THUNDERCLAN COULD BE IN DANGER!
I CAN'T JUST LET THIS GO!
...
ONLY FOR YOU, FIREHEART.
I'LL SEE WHAT I CAN DO.

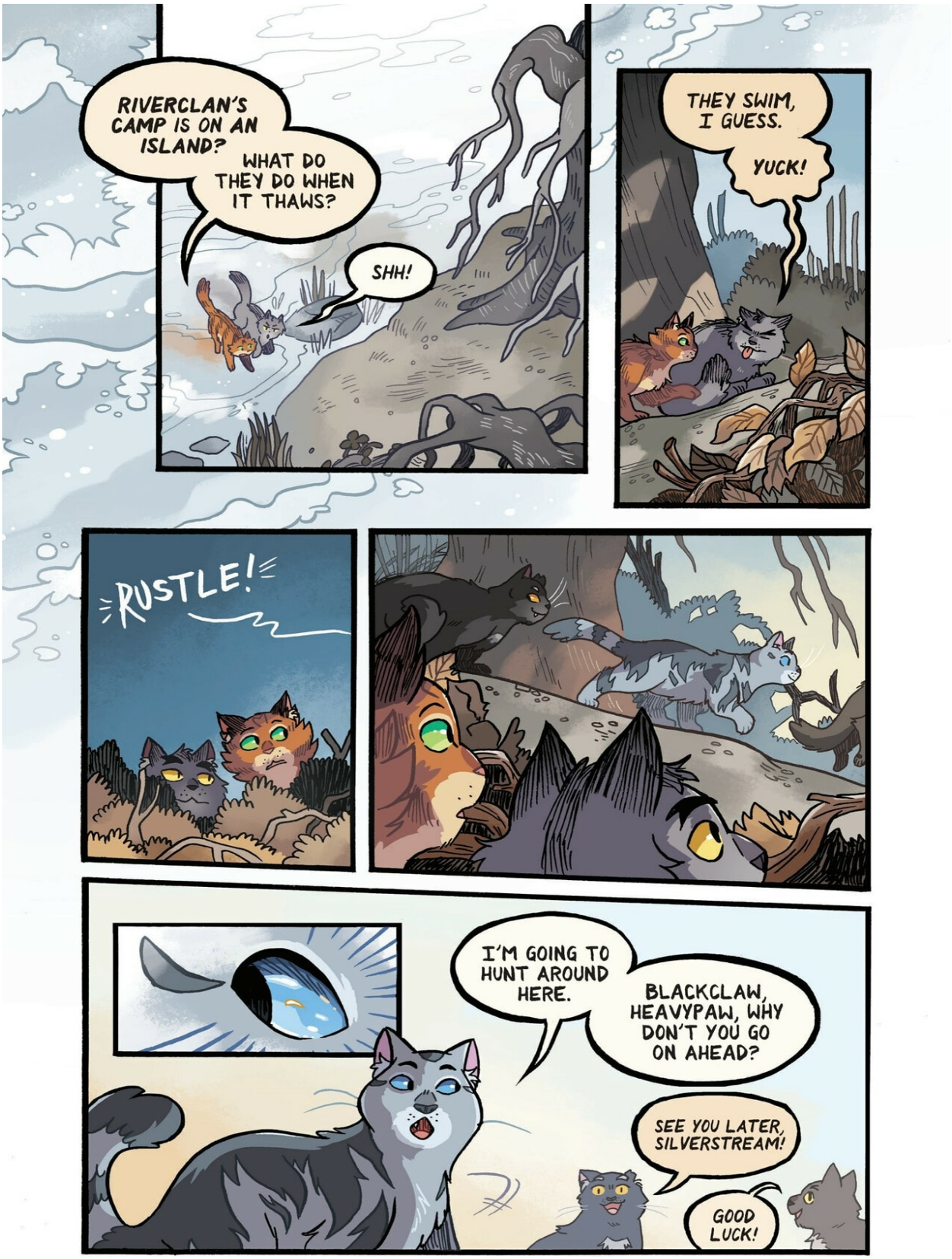
DO YOU THINK WE SHOULD HAVE BROUGHT YOUR APPRENTICE HUNTING WITH US?
OH, RIGHT...
...NEXT TIME.

MAYBE YOU CAN TAKE BRACKENPAW OUT FOR ME TOMORROW, SINCE CINDERPAW'S STILL RECOVERING?
YEAH.
MAYBE.

CINDERPAW'S RESTING.
SHE'S BEEN HURT INSIDE AND HER HIND LEG IS BADLY BROKEN...
BUT I THINK SHE'LL LIVE.
AH, THANKS FOR THE FRESH-KILL.
JUST LIKE OLD TIMES!
...
FIREHEART, SHE WILL RECOVER, BUT HER LEG WON'T EVER BE THE SAME.
THIS INJURY WILL STAY WITH HER FOR THE REST OF HER LIFE.
HI, FIREHEART!

YOU BROUGHT ME A MOUSE!
FINALLY, SOMETHING TO GET THE TASTE OF THESE STINKY HERBS OUT OF MY MOUTH!
BLEH!
THOSE "STINKY HERBS" ARE HELPING YOU RECOVER.
IF THEY TASTE BAD, THAT MEANS THEY'RE DOING THEIR JOB!
SEE WHAT I HAVE TO DEAL WITH HERE?


AT LEAST SHE'S AS SPIRITED AS EVER.
REST UP, CINDERPAW.


RIVERCLAN'S CAMP IS ON AN ISLAND?
WHAT DO THEY DO WHEN IT THAWS?
SHH!
THEY SWIM, I GUESS.
YUCK!
RUSTLE!
I'M GOING TO HUNT AROUND HERE.
BLACKCLAW, HEAVYPAW, WHY DON'T YOU GO ON AHEAD?
SEE YOU LATER, SILVERSTREAM!
GOOD LUCK!

YOU'RE HERE TO TALK TO MISTYFOOT, RIGHT?
!
SILVERSTREAM!
FOLLOW ME, QUIETLY.
STAY CLOSE.
PURR
PURR
PURR
MISTYFOOT, GRAYPOOL...
THIS IS FIREHEART AND GRAYSTRIPE. THEY HAVE SOME QUESTIONS FOR YOU ABOUT OAKHEART'S DEATH.
SILVERSTREAM! WHAT WERE YOU THINKING, BRINGING THUNDERCLAN THIS CLOSE TO OUR CAMP?!
MISTYFOOT, LISTEN--
I'VE BEEN QUIET ABOUT YOUR LITTLE "FRIENDSHIP" WITH THAT ONE, BUT--
PLEASE, MISTYFOOT, GRAYPOOL...

WE'RE NOT HERE TO SPY OR TO STEAL PREY.
WE NEED TO SPEAK TO A CAT WHO FOUGHT AT SUNNINGROCKS AND KNOWS HOW OAKHEART DIED.

WHY?
IT'S HARD TO EXPLAIN, BUT...

IT'S NOTHING THAT COULD HARM RIVERCLAN.
I SWEAR ON STARCLAN.

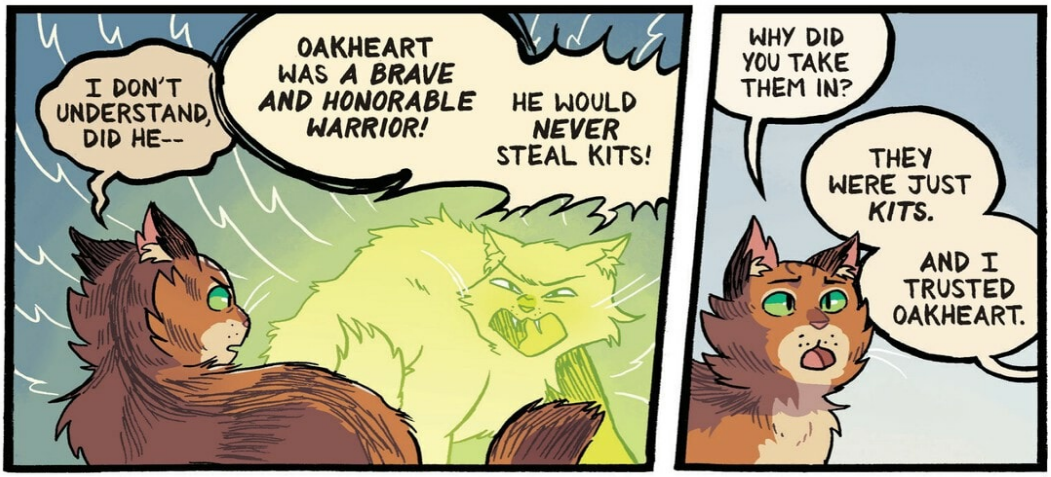
FOR A THUNDERCLAN CAT, AT LEAST HE'S *POLITE*.
I'VE HEARD OAKHEART WAS A BRAVE WARRIOR.
MY FATHER WAS *THE BRAVEST CAT IN RIVERCLAN.*

NO WARRIOR COULD MATCH HIM IN BATTLE, AND NO WARRIOR DID.
HIS DEATH WAS AN ACCIDENT.
ARE YOU SURE?
MY BROTHER, STONEFUR, AND I BOTH FOUGHT IN THAT BATTLE AT SUNNINGROCKS.
OAKHEART WAS WOUNDED, BUT NOT ENOUGH TO KILL HIM.
NO CAT KILLED HIM.

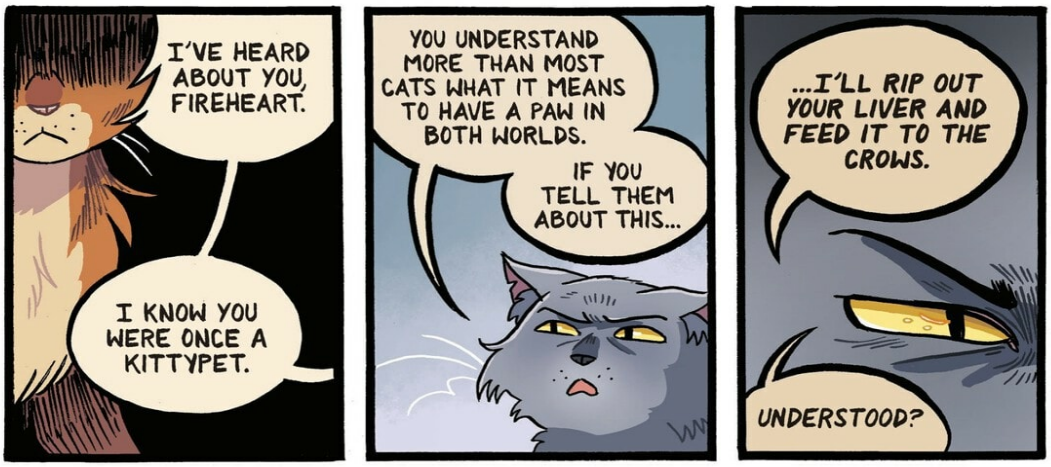
A ROCKFALL KILLED OAKHEART.
OUR MEDICINE CAT CONFIRMED IT.
SO IT WAS NO CAT'S FAULT...
WHAT?
NOTHING.
THAT'S WHAT I NEEDED TO KNOW.
THANK YOU BOTH.
...
THERE'S...
ONE MORE THING YOU OUGHT TO KNOW.
BUT IT'S FOR YOUR EARS ONLY, FIREHEART.

LEAVE US.
GRAYPOOL, ARE YOU SURE?
I MAY BE OLD, BUT I CAN HANDLE A SINGLE THUNDERCLAN CAT.
GO, ALL OF YOU.
NOW.
MISTYFOOT THINKS SHE AND STONEFUR ARE MY AND OAKHEART'S KITS.
SHE'S WRONG.
...
I AM NOT THEIR MOTHER.
OAKHEART BROUGHT THEM TO ME AS KITS IN THE MIDDLE OF LEAF-BARE, WITH SOME NONSENSE STORY ABOUT ROGUES OR TWOLEGS.
BUT I'M NOT STUPID, AND I COULD SMELL THAT THOSE KITS...

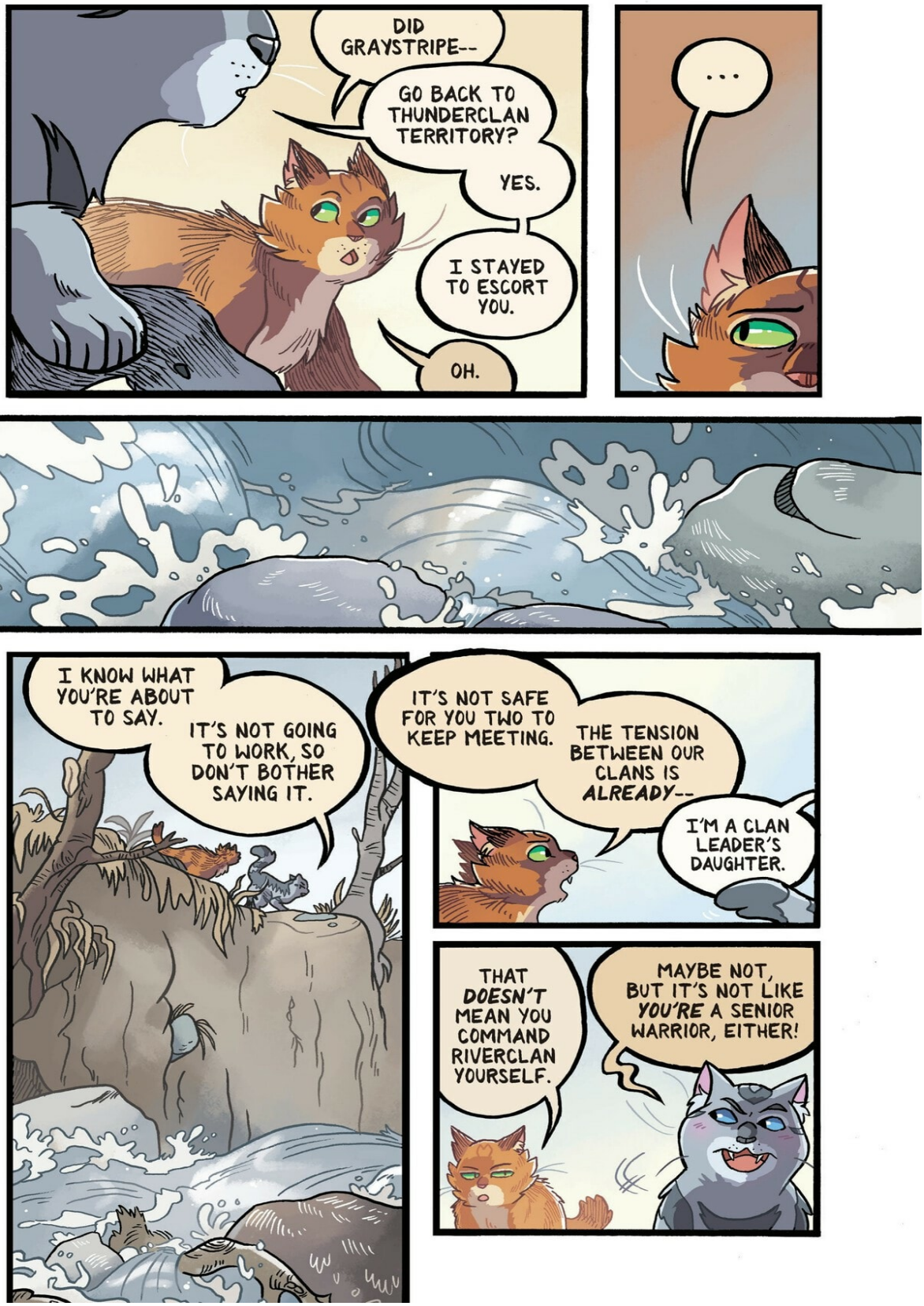
...CAME FROM THUNDERCLAN.


I DON'T UNDERSTAND, DID HE--
OAKHEART WAS A BRAVE AND HONORABLE WARRIOR!
HE WOULD NEVER STEAL KITS!
WHY DID YOU TAKE THEM IN?
THEY WERE JUST KITS.
AND I TRUSTED OAKHEART.

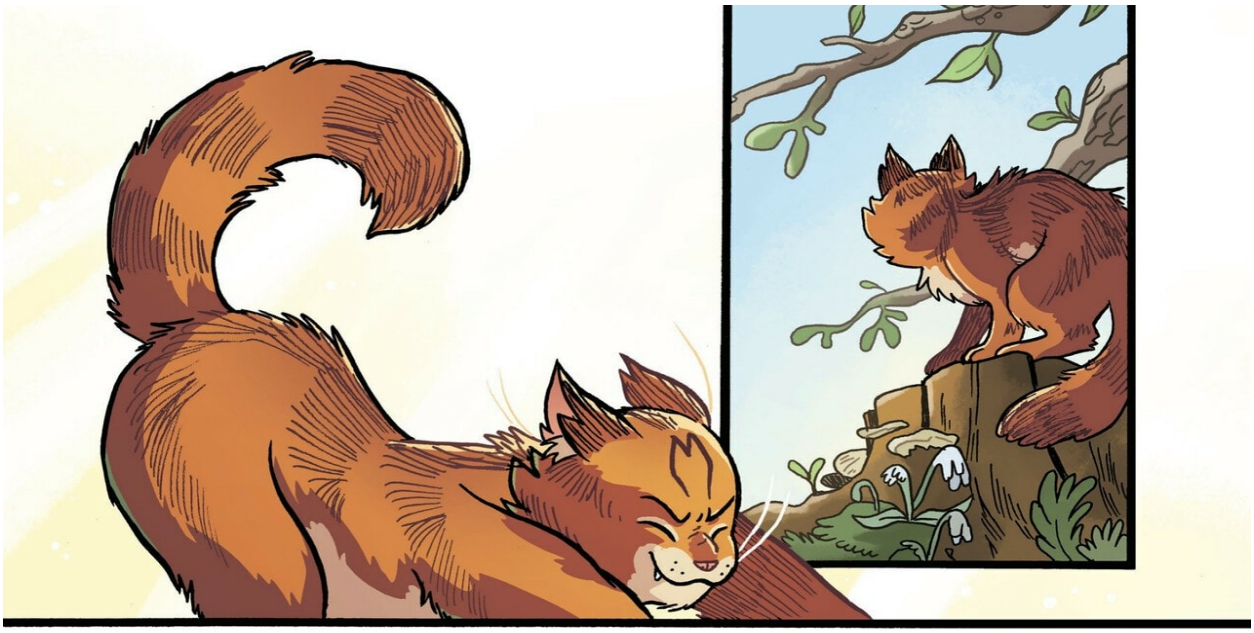
I RAISED MISTYFOOT AND STONEFUR TO BE FINE AND LOYAL RIVERCLAN CATS.
I LOVE THEM AS MUCH AS ANY OF MY OWN.
THEY DON'T KNOW AND I THINK THEY'RE BETTER OFF NOT KNOWING.


I'VE HEARD ABOUT YOU, FIREHEART.
I KNOW YOU WERE ONCE A KITTYPET.
YOU UNDERSTAND MORE THAN MOST CATS WHAT IT MEANS TO HAVE A PAW IN BOTH WORLDS.
IF YOU TELL THEM ABOUT THIS...
...I'LL RIP OUT YOUR LIVER AND FEED IT TO THE CROWS.
UNDERSTOOD?

I'M VERY GRATEFUL TO YOU FOR TELLING ME, GRAYPOOL.
I DON'T KNOW WHAT THIS MEANS, BUT...
I THINK THE ANSWER WILL BE IMPORTANT TO BOTH OF OUR CLANS.


DID GRAYSTRIPE--
GO BACK TO THUNDERCLAN TERRITORY?
YES.
I STAYED TO ESCORT YOU.
OH.
...
I KNOW WHAT YOU'RE ABOUT TO SAY.
IT'S NOT GOING TO WORK, SO DON'T BOTHER SAYING IT.
IT'S NOT SAFE FOR YOU TWO TO KEEP MEETING.
THE TENSION BETWEEN OUR CLANS IS *ALREADY*--
I'M A CLAN LEADER'S DAUGHTER.
THAT *DOESN'T* MEAN YOU COMMAND RIVERCLAN YOURSELF.
MAYBE NOT, BUT IT'S NOT LIKE *YOU'RE* A SENIOR WARRIOR, EITHER!

EXACTLY.
I CAN'T PROTECT GRAYSTRIPE IF THIS GETS OUT.
HE'S MY BEST FRIEND, AND HE WON'T LISTEN TO ME.
SO TALKING TO YOU IS MY LAST HOPE.
BUT...
...I CAN'T STOP SEEING HIM.
I LOVE HIM.
IF GRAYSTRIPE IS TRULY AS IMPORTANT TO YOU AS YOU SAY...
...YOU'LL TRY TO UNDERSTAND.



THANKS FOR THE FRESH-KILL!
THANK STARCLAN IT'S ALMOST NEWLEAF.
WE'VE HAD HALF THE CLAN IN HERE SINCE SUNRISE, COMPLAINING ABOUT SOME ACHE OR OTHER.
WELL, CINDERPAW?
WHAT WILL ONE-EYE NEED FOR HER CRACKED PAWPADS?
MARIGOLD FOR INFECTION,
CHEWED YARROW TO SOFTEN THE PADS,
AND POPPY SEEDS, IF THE CUTS GET WORSE.
WELL DONE, CINDERPAW!
RIGHT.
NOW, GO GIVE HER THE HERBS, AND COME BACK FOR THE POPPY IF THE CUTS DO GET WORSE.
MMPH!

SHOULDN'T SHE BE RESTING?
OH, SO *YOU'RE* THE MEDICINE CAT NOW, ARE YOU?
I'VE GOT HER DOING STRETCHES TO STRENGTHEN HER LEG, AND SHE'S NOT PUSHING IT TOO HARD.
IT'S GOOD TO SEE HER BACK ON HER PAWS, THEN.
HONESTLY, I LIKE HAVING HER HELP.
AT FIRST I GAVE HER JOBS TO KEEP HER OUT OF MY FUR, BUT IT TURNS OUT SHE'S GOOD WITH SICK CATS.
IT'S RARE TO FIND A CAT HER AGE WHO ISN'T *TOTALLY MOUSE-BRAINED.*

I'M GETTING *OLD*, FIREHEART.
IF SHE DOESN'T WANT TO RETURN TO WARRIOR TRAINING AFTER HER INJURY...
I'M THINKING OF ASKING CINDERPAW TO BECOME MY *APPRENTICE*...
AND EVENTUALLY, THUNDERCLAN'S NEXT *MEDICINE CAT*.
HAVE YOU TOLD HER?
NOT YET.
I WANT HER TO HAVE MORE TIME TO THINK ABOUT IT.
...
I UNDERSTAND.
IN THE END...
IT SHOULD BE *HER* DECISION.

FIREHEART!
HEY, FIREHEART!
WHITESTORM, MOUSEFUR, SANDPAW!
HOW WAS THE PATROL?
MOSTLY QUIET, BUT...
WE FOUND MORE SHADOWCLAN SCENT AND PREY SCRAPS. NO CATS, THOUGH.
IT'S ALWAYS THE SAME SCENTS, LIKE THEY'RE SENDING THE SAME CATS EVERY TIME.
I DON'T KNOW THEM WELL ENOUGH TO PLACE THEM, THOUGH.
KEEP YOUR EARS PRICKED WHILE HUNTING TODAY, FIREHEART.
NOD!
BEFORE YOU HEAD OUT, DO YOU WANT TO GO SEE BRINDLEFACE'S NEW KITS WITH ME?
YEAH!
NEW KITS!

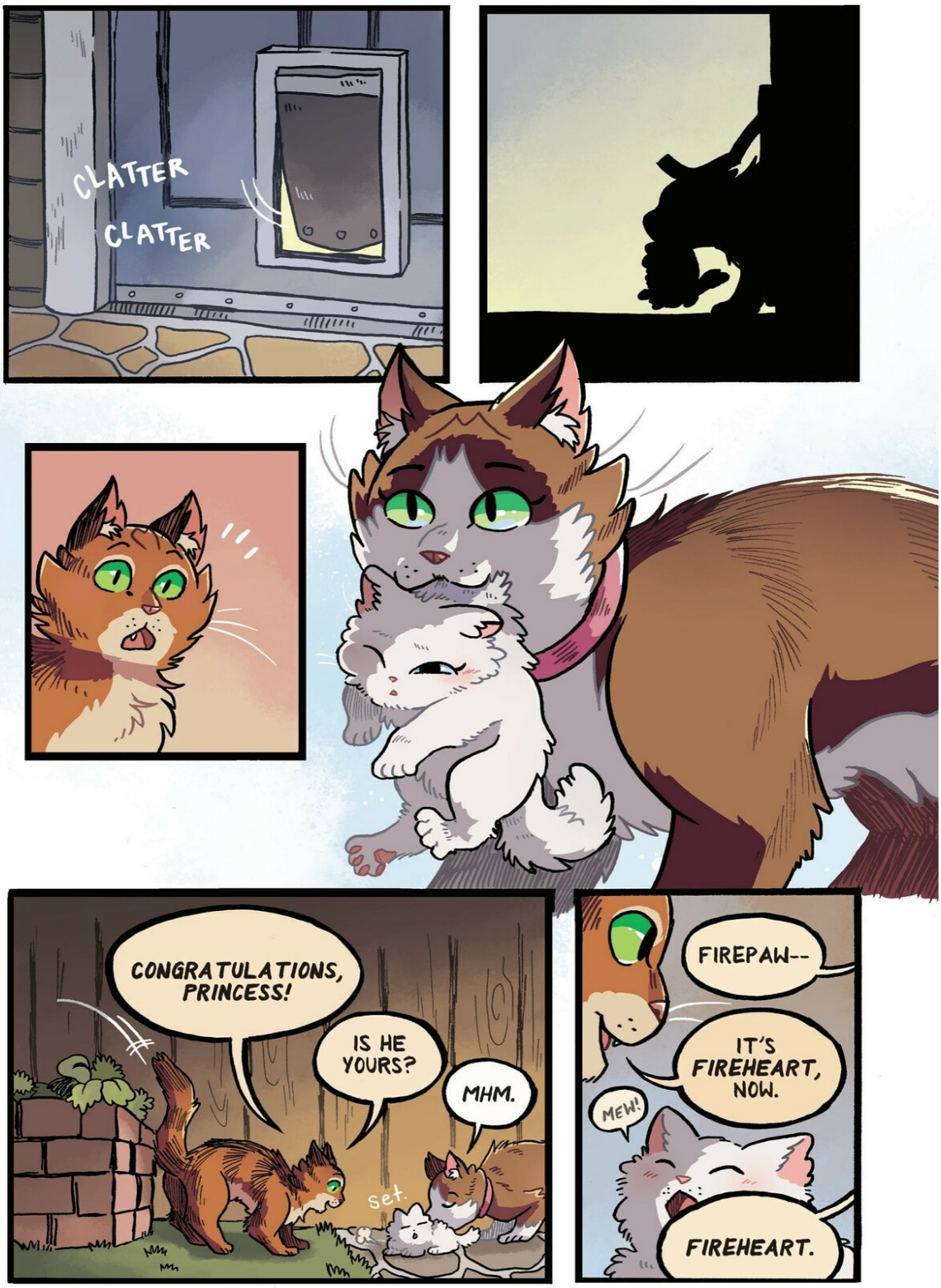
OKAY, YOU'VE SEEN THEM.
NOW QUIT CROWDING THE QUEENS!
YES, SPECKLETAIL.
...
DO YOU EVER MISS YOUR FAMILY, FIREHEART?
THIS IS MY HOME, AND I'M A THUNDERCLAN CAT, NOW.
WELL, OBVIOUSLY!
STREEEETCH!
BUT YOU CAN STILL MISS THEM!
I DON'T HAVE SIBLINGS, SO I GET KIND OF JEALOUS OF CATS WHO DO.
LIKE LONGTAIL AND SWIFTPAW.
EVEN DUSTPAW HAD RAVENPAW, BEFORE HE WAS KILLED...

I'M GOING OUT TO THE TWOLEGPLACE ANYWAY.
WHY NOT CHECK IN ON PRINCESS, TOO?

AFTER ALL, SHE MIGHT KNOW SOMETHING ABOUT THE SHADOWCLAN CATS OR THOSE ROGUES!

I'M NOT JUST VISITING.

FIREPAW?


CLATTER
CLATTER
CONGRATULATIONS, PRINCESS!
IS HE YOURS?
MHM.
set.
FIREPAW--
IT'S FIREHEART, NOW.
MEW!
FIREHEART.

I'M GLAD YOU CAME.
WHEN I FOUND OUT THAT I WAS EXPECTING KITS...
I THOUGHT ABOUT YOU, AND WHAT YOU SAID ABOUT LIVING WITH THE FOREST CATS.
THE REST OF MY KITS' FUTURES WILL BE DECIDED BY MY HOUSEFOLK.
THEY WILL MOST LIKELY BE SENT TO OTHER HOMES AROUND HERE, JUST LIKE US WHEN WE WERE KITS.
BUT FOR MY *FIRSTBORN*...
I WANTED TO *DECIDE HIS FATE*.
I WANT HIM...

...TO BE A WILD THUNDERCLAN WARRIOR.
I DON'T UNDERSTAND ALL OF YOUR CLAN WAYS. BUT IF ONE OF MY KITS COULD GROW UP TO BE LIKE YOU...
...I WOULD BE HONORED.
WE DO NEED MORE WARRIORS, ESPECIALLY IF CINDERPAW DECIDES TO BECOME A MEDICINE CAT...
MEW!

THANK YOU, PRINCESS.
I'LL MAKE SURE HE'S TRAINED TO BE A FINE WARRIOR.
GO ON THEN, LITTLE ONE.
GO WITH YOUR UNCLE.
GOOD LUCK, MY LOVE.
FIREHEART.
WHAT IS THE MEANING OF THIS?

HE IS MY SISTER'S FIRSTBORN.
SHE GAVE HIM TO ME TO BECOME A PART OF THUNDERCLAN.
YOUR SISTER?
ANOTHER KITTYPET?
ISN'T ONE ENOUGH?
THE CLAN ALREADY HAS ENOUGH TO WORRY ABOUT!
LOOK AT THAT SOFT, PUFFY FUR!
IT'LL JUST BE A BURDEN.
IT'S TOO SMALL!
YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE BROUGHT ANOTHER KITTYPET HERE. IT'LL BE TOO SOFT FOR CLAN LIFE!
I WAS BORN A KITTYPET!
AM I SOFT?!
THIS KIT IS FIREHEART'S KIN.

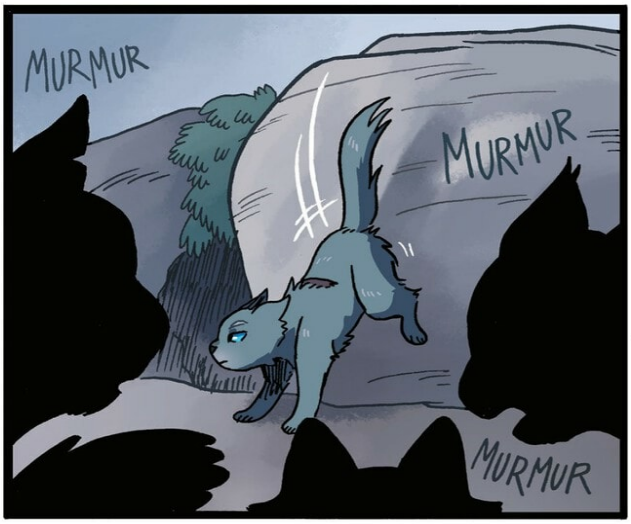
IF THE KIT IS *ANYTHING* LIKE HIM...
...HE'LL GROW INTO A *FINE* CAT.
GRAYSTRIPE...
NOD
GRAYSTRIPE IS RIGHT.
STEP!
I HAVEN'T *FORGOTTEN* WHAT FIREHEART HAS DONE FOR THE OTHER KITS OF THUNDERCLAN.
HE BROUGHT THEM BACK FROM *SHADOWCLAN* NOT SO MANY MOONS AGO!

I'LL SEE IF BRINDLEFACE CAN FEED HIM.
THANK YOU, FROSTFUR.
ENOUGH.
I MUST THINK ABOUT THIS.
YOU'LL HAVE MY ANSWER BY MOONHIGH.
MEW!
MURMUR
MURMUR
MURMUR

CATS OF THUNDERCLAN.
NO CAT CAN DENY WE NEED MORE WARRIORS, ESPECIALLY AFTER LOSING CATS TO GREENCOUGH THIS LEAF-BARE.
WE WILL TAKE THIS KIT INTO THE CLAN.
THIS IS MY DECISION.

BRINDLEFACE HAS AGREED TO NURSE THE KIT.
FIREHEART WILL TAKE ON THE DUTY OF HUNTING FOR HER AND THE KITS.
FINALLY, THE KIT MUST HAVE A NAME.

HE WILL BE KNOWN AS CLOUDKIT.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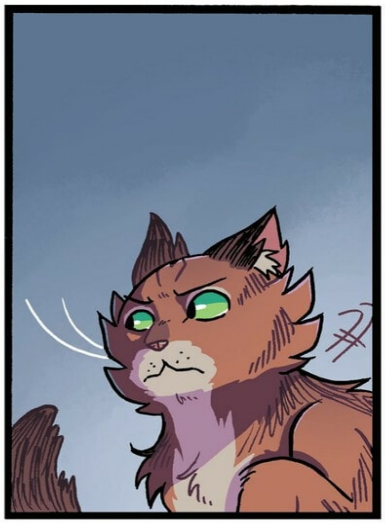


THANK YOU FOR STICKING UP FOR ME BACK THERE, GRAYSTRIPE.
SOME CAT HAD TO.
...
FIREHEART, I KNOW WHAT YOU SAID TO...
...YOU KNOW WHO.
STAY OUT OF IT.

I MAKE MY OWN DECISIONS.
ARE YOU AND GRAYSTRIPE FIGHTING?
IT'S NOTHING.
FIREHEART?

WHY DON'T YOU JOIN ME ON PATROL THIS MORNING?
MPH!
I MEAN--
OF COURSE, BLUESTAR!
JUST FIREHEART?
I NEED YOU ON THE SHADOWCLAN BORDER TODAY.
BUT--
THE SCENT MARKERS NEED REINFORCING, TIGERCLAW.
YOU COULD TAKE DARKSTRIPE OR LONGTAIL--
FIREHEART WILL BE ENOUGH, THANK YOU!

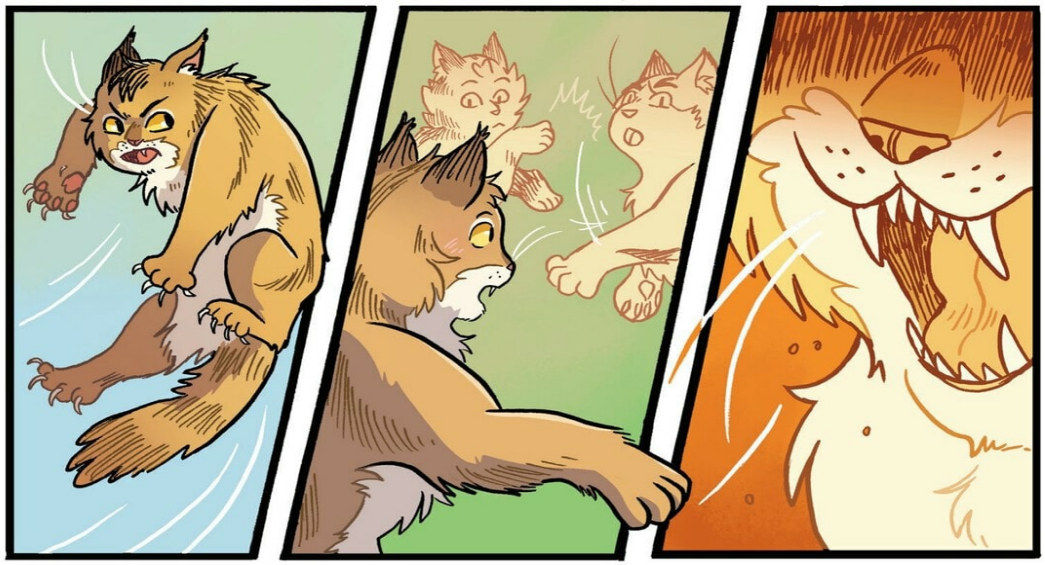
NO OTHER CAT IS AROUND...
THIS IS MY CHANCE TO TALK TO BLUESTAR!
BLUESTAR.
HM?
I NEED TO TALK TO YOU.

SPEAK.
RAVENPAW ISN'T DEAD.
OH?
HE WENT TO GO LIVE AT THE TWOLEG FARM WITH BARLEY.
NOT ALL CATS ARE SUITED FOR CLAN LIFE.
HE DIDN'T HAVE A CHOICE.
HE HAD TO LEAVE, BECAUSE HE KNEW SOMETHING TIGERCLAW COULDN'T LET HIM SHARE.
HE KNEW THAT TIGERCLAW...
KILLED REDTAIL AT SUNNINGROCKS.

RAVENPAW MUST BE *MISTAKEN.*
FIREHEART, A WARRIOR WOULD *NEVER* KILL ANOTHER OF HIS OWN CLAN.
DID HE *ACTUALLY* SEE TIGERCLAW KILL REDTAIL?
YES.
I *ALSO* SPOKE TO SOME RIVERCLAN CATS WHO WERE PRESENT AT THE BATTLE.
THEY TOLD ME TIGERCLAW DIDN'T KILL OAKHEART IN RETALIATION.
OAKHEART DIED IN A ROCKFALL.
IF HE LIED ABOUT *THAT...*
ISN'T IT POSSIBLE *HE LIED ABOUT REDTAIL, TOO?*
TIGERCLAW IS A FINE WARRIOR.
THESE ARE *SERIOUS* CHARGES.

I KNOW.
BUT CAN'T YOU SEE HOW DANGEROUS HE IS?
AND...
THERE WAS SOMETHING ELSE.
SOMETHING STRANGE ABOUT TWO OF THE RIVERCLAN WARRIORS, MISTYFOOT AND STONEFUR.
I TALKED TO AN ELDER WHO TOLD ME OAKHEART BROUGHT THEM TO HER TO NURSE AS KITS.
SHE SAID THAT...
THE KITS SMELLED LIKE THUNDERCLAN.

AND YOU LISTENED TO THIS NONSENSE?!
I JUST--
I EXPECTED BETTER FROM YOU.
SNEAKING AROUND, LISTENING TO GOSSIP IN ENEMY TERRITORY!
AND THEN YOU HAVE THE NERVE TO COME HERE, TELLING ME TALES ABOUT TIGERCLAW'S LOYALTY?
HISS!
FIND YOURSELF SOMETHING USEFUL TO DO THAT BEFITS A WARRIOR.
AND NEVER, EVER SPEAK OF THIS TO ME AGAIN.



THANKS FOR HELPING WITH BRACKENPAW'S TRAINING TODAY, RUNNINGWIND!
SURE!
IT'S GOOD TO GET OUT IN THIS NEWLEAF SUNSHINE!

YOWWWWWL!!
LOOK AT THIS.
RABBIT BONES.
LEFT ON OUR TERRITORY, STINKING OF...
SHADOWCLAN.
WHERE'S BLUESTAR?
SHE JUST LEFT.

THIS NEEDS TO BE SETTLED NOW.
DARKSTRIPE, MOUSEFUR, RUNNINGWIND, WILLOWPELT!
TO ME!
LET'S GO REMIND SHADOWCLAN WHAT IT MEANS TO DISRESPECT THUNDERCLAN!
WHITESTORM, CAN I COME TOO?
NOT THIS TIME.
WHAT ABOUT FIREHEART?
FIREHEART, YOU CAN STAY HERE IN CAMP AND TELL BLUESTAR WHEN SHE ARRIVES.

YOU'RE LEAVING BEFORE SHE GETS BACK?
Hiss!
OF COURSE!
WHAT'S ALL THIS YOWLING ABOUT?
SNIFF.

BROKENSTAR!
SHADOWCLAN DIDN'T LEAVE THESE BONES.
IT'S BROKENSTAR AND HIS EXILED WARRIORS!
FIREHEART! WHO'S LEFT TO DEFEND CAMP?
GRAYSTRIPE, LONGTAIL, AND SWIFTPAW ARE ALL WITH BLUESTAR...
I'M THE ONLY WARRIOR IN CAMP!
WHAT DO I DO?
IF BROKENSTAR ATTACKS THE CAMP, WE HAVE TO BE READY!

THE CAMP IS IN DANGER!
EVERY CAT LEFT IN CAMP, GATHER HERE NOW!
BROKENSTAR IS BACK.
HE MIGHT BE IN THUNDERCLAN TERRITORY RIGHT NOW.
WHAT DOES HE THINK HE'S DOING UP THERE?
SHH!
NOD!
BRACKENPAW, I NEED YOU TO GO FIND TIGERCLAW AND TELL HIM NOT TO ATTACK SHADOWCLAN.
KITS, ELDERS, STAY INSIDE THE NURSERY.
THE REST OF YOU, GET READY TO FIGHT--
YOWWL!!

SO, THEY LEFT THE KITTYPET IN CHARGE, EH?
BROKENSTAR!
THIS WILL BE EASIER THAN I THOUGHT!

YOU LOST THE LAST TIME WE FOUGHT, AND YOU'LL LOSE AGAIN!
NEVER!
YOU MAY HAVE TAKEN MY CLAN FROM ME--
BUT YOU CAN'T KILL ME!
I HAVE MORE LIVES THAN YOU!
ONE THUNDERCLAN LIFE IS WORTH TEN OF YOURS!
RGH!!

CLAWFACE!
HISS!

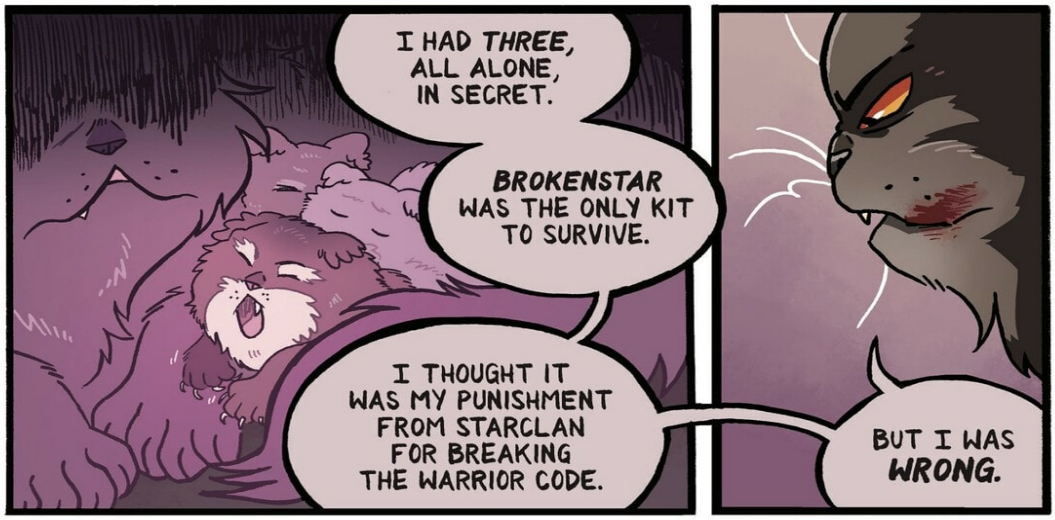
CRUNCH.
YOU OKAY, FIREHEART?
IT'S JUST A SCRATCH.
WHERE'S BLUESTAR?

WE FOUND MORE BONES LEFT IN THE TERRITORY, BUT BLUESTAR RECOGNIZED BROKENSTAR'S SCENT.
SHE REALIZED IT WAS A TRAP AND SENT ME BACK TO CAMP TO WARN THE CLAN.
WELL, CONSIDER US WARNED!
HISS!
YOWLLLL!!
HISS
HISS!!
RRREOWWR
THANK STARCLAN YOU GOT HERE IN TIME TO SAVE ME, THOUGH!
FIREHEART, I WOULD GIVE MY LIFE FOR YOU.
YOU KNOW THAT.
HISS!

HOW DO YOU LIKE MY CLAWS, YOU KIT-STEALING LITTLE WEASEL?!
HOW'S IT FEEL TO FACE A CAT BIG ENOUGH TO FIGHT BACK?
LET HIM GO, FROSTFUR.
YOU'VE GIVEN HIM A MEMORABLE ENOUGH TASTE OF THUNDERCLAN.

WHERE'S BROKENSTAR?

IS THIS HIS LAST LIFE?
SIGH.
IT ISN'T.
AND EVEN IF IT WERE...
I COULDN'T KILL HIM.
HE IS MY SON.
BUT MEDICINE CATS ARE FORBIDDEN FROM HAVING KITS!
I KNOW.
I NEVER INTENDED TO HAVE THEM.
BUT THEN I FELL IN LOVE WITH RAGGEDSTAR.


I HAD THREE, ALL ALONE, IN SECRET.
BROKENSTAR WAS THE ONLY KIT TO SURVIVE.
I THOUGHT IT WAS MY PUNISHMENT FROM STARCLAN FOR BREAKING THE WARRIOR CODE.
BUT I WAS WRONG.

STARCLAN'S PUNISHMENT WAS THAT THIS ONE LIVED.

...GO FIND CINDERPAW.
I'LL TEND TO THIS MESS.

CINDERPAW! ARE YOU OKAY?
IS IT OVER?
YES, THE ROGUES ARE GONE.
ARE YOU OKAY?
I...
I SHOULD HAVE FOUGHT ALONGSIDE YOU!
D-DUSTPELT TOLD ME IT WAS TOO DANGEROUS AND TO HIDE--
TPT!
CINDERPAW.
IT'S OKAY.
THERE'S MORE TO FOLLOWING THE WARRIOR CODE THAN FIGHTING.
YELLOWFANG'S GOING TO NEED HELP WITH THE INJURIES FROM THE BATTLE.
WHY DON'T YOU GO FIND HER?
RIGHT!

BLUESTAR!
BROKENSTAR ATTACKED?
NOD!
IS HE DEAD?
YELLOWFANG BADLY WOUNDED HIM.
GRAYSTRIPE KILLED CLAWFACE.
THE REST WE CHASED OFF.
RIGHT.
WHERE'S TIGERCLAW?
RIGHT BEFORE THE ATTACK, TIGERCLAW TOOK THE REST OF THE WARRIORS AND--
CRSSH!

YOU GUARDED THE CAMP FROM BROKENSTAR WELL, FIREHEART.
BROKENSTAR ATTACKED?!
WHAT HAPPENED?
WHERE IS HE?
IS HE ALIVE?

HE IS BLINDED, WOUNDED, AND RESTING.
I GAVE HIM POPPY SEED AND SENT DUSTPAW TO GUARD HIM.
RESTING?!
WE SHOULD KILL HIM THEN!
LEAVE HIM OUT FOR THE CROWS AND FOXES!
WE CAN'T LET HIM DIE.
WE'D BE NO BETTER THAN HIM IF WE DID.
...
WHAT DO YOU THINK, WHITESTORM?
HE'D BE A BURDEN ON OUR CLAN, BUT YELLOWFANG HAS A POINT.

THEN WE'LL KEEP HIM PRISONER FOR ONE MOON TO HEAL THE WORST OF HIS INJURIES.
AFTER THAT, WE'LL DISCUSS IT AGAIN.
BLUESTAR, WAIT!
I DIDN'T DEFEND THUNDERCLAN BY MYSELF.
THE QUEENS FOUGHT LIKE LIONCLAN, AND...
...SANDPAW AND DUSTPAW ALSO FOUGHT LIKE WARRIORS.
I SEE.
THEY HAVE EARNED THEIR WARRIOR NAMES, AND IT'S TIME THEY GOT THEM.
OUR APPRENTICES! I'M SO PROUD!
LET ALL CATS OLD ENOUGH TO CATCH THEIR OWN PREY GATHER BENEATH THE HIGHROCK!

I, BLUESTAR, LEADER OF THUNDERCLAN, CALL UPON OUR WARRIOR ANCESTORS TO LOOK DOWN UPON THESE APPRENTICES.
I COMMEND THEM TO YOU AS WARRIORS IN THEIR TURN.
DO YOU PROMISE TO UPHOLD THE WARRIOR CODE AND TO PROTECT AND DEFEND THIS CLAN, EVEN AT THE COST OF YOUR OWN LIFE?
I DO!
I DO.
THEN BY THE POWERS OF STARCLAN, I GIVE YOU YOUR WARRIOR NAMES:
DUSTPELT.
SANDSTORM.
STARCLAN HONORS AND WELCOMES YOU BOTH AS FULL WARRIORS OF THUNDERCLAN.

I HAVE *OTHER* NEWS.
AS YOU KNOW, THUNDERCLAN DEFENDED ITSELF FROM A ROGUE ATTACK TODAY, AND WE TOOK BROKENSTAR *PRISONER*.
HE IS BLIND AND WILL BE KEPT UNDER WATCH UNTIL MOST OF HIS WOUNDS HEAL.
IN THE MEANTIME, WE CANNOT TAKE AWAY THE LIVES THAT STARCLAN GAVE HIM, BUT THIS CAT IS *NO LONGER* A CLAN LEADER.
HE WILL HENCEFORTH BE KNOWN AS...
BROKENTAIL.

PART TWO:
BROKENTAIL

WE WILL SAY NOTHING.
IT DOESN'T CONCERN THE OTHER CLANS AND I DON'T WANT ANY TROUBLE.
I REMEMBER A WORSE LEAF-BARE THAN THIS PAST ONE.
WHEN THE RIVER FROZE FOR THREE MOONS!
AND PREY WAS SCARCE, EVEN FOR RIVERCLAN.

THAT MUST HAVE BEEN THE SEASON BLUESTAR LOST HER KITS...
AND THEN, THE THAW THAT NEWLEAF!
THE RIVER NEARLY ROSE UP TO THE BADGER SETS.
PREY DROWNED, AND CATS STARVED.
MAY STARCLAN GRANT IT'S NOT SO BAD THIS YEAR.
HEAR, HEAR!

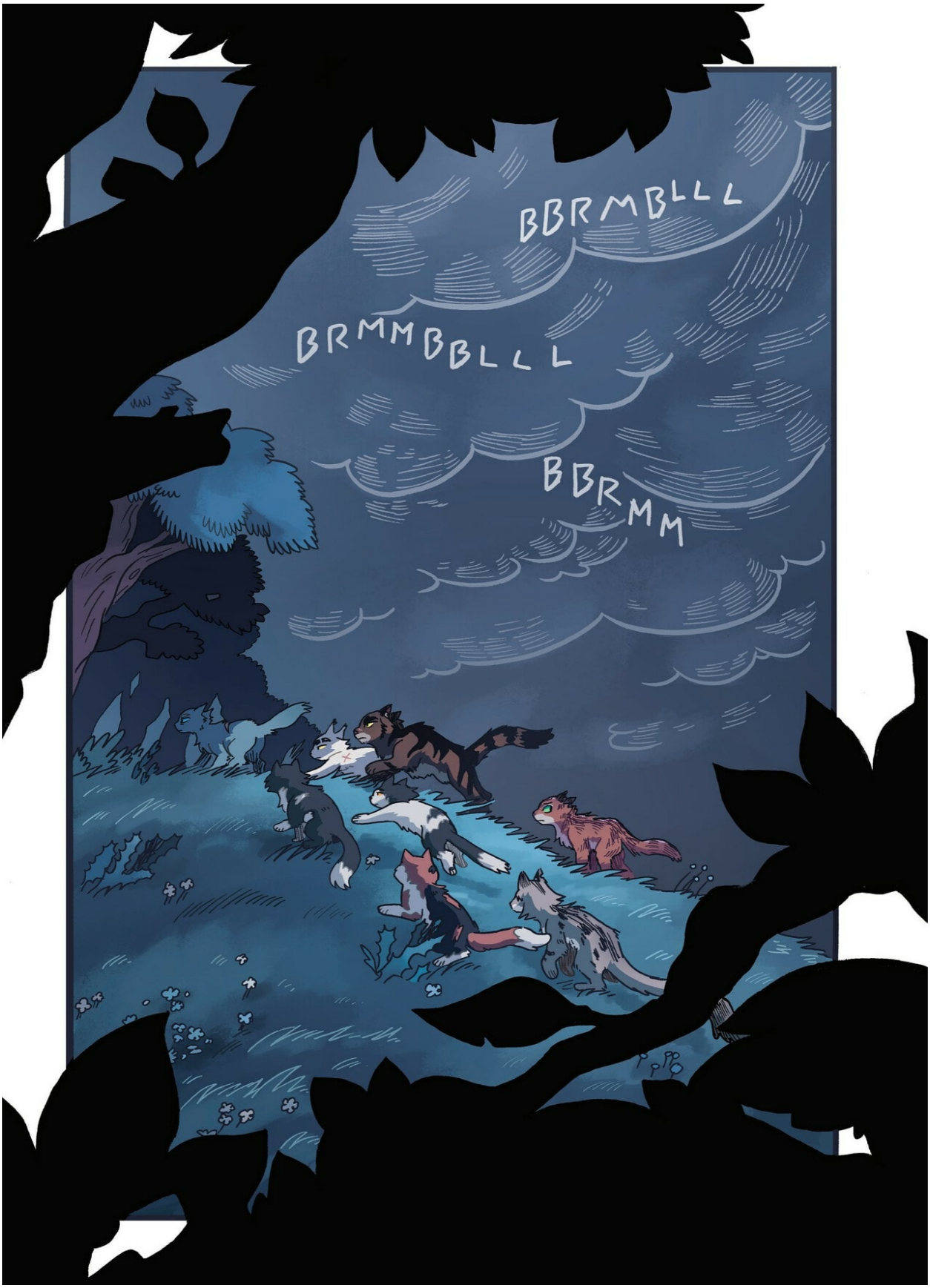
CATS OF ALL CLANS...
WELCOME!

THUNDERCLAN BRINGS ONLY A LITTLE NEWS TONIGHT.
NEWLEAF COMES WITH GOOD HUNTING.
WE HAVE NAMED TWO NEW WARRIORS, SANDSTORM AND DUSTPELT.
ISN'T THERE SOMETHING ELSE THUNDERCLAN HAS TO SHARE?
I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU MEAN, NIGHTSTAR.
DON'T LIE TO US.
I HEARD ONE OF YOUR APPRENTICES GOSSIPING.
CATS OF ALL CLANS!
THUNDERCLAN IS SHELTERING BROKENSTAR!
HISS!

BLUESTAR, IS THIS TRUE?!
AFTER EVERYTHING HE DID TO WINDCLAN--
TO ALL THE CLANS!
...
YES. IT'S TRUE.
YOWWWL!
BROKENTAIL AND HIS ROGUES ATTACKED OUR CAMP, AND WE FOUGHT THEM OFF.
HE IS AN OLD, DEFEATED CAT WHO IS NO DANGER TO ANYONE.
WOULD YOU LET HIM STARVE IN THE FOREST?
NO DEATH IS TOO CRUEL FOR HIM!
WE CAN NEVER FORGIVE HIM, BLUESTAR!
BLUESTAR, WHY HAVE YOU DONE THIS?

THE WARRIOR CODE TELLS US TO SHOW COMPASSION--
COMPASSION?!
DON'T TELL US TALES FOR KITS.
WHAT COMPASSION DID BROKENSTAR EVER SHOW?
YOU MUST DRIVE HIM OUT!
DON'T TELL ME HOW TO RUN MY CLAN.
IF YOU KEEP ON WITH THIS, YOU CAN EXPECT TROUBLE FROM SHADOWCLAN--
AND WINDCLAN.
ENOUGH!
THUNDERCLAN DOES NOT TAKE ORDERS FROM OTHER CLANS!

LOOK AT THE CLOUDS!
STARCLAN IS ANGRY.
TONIGHT'S GATHERING IS OVER.
BUT WE WON'T FORGET WHAT YOU'VE DONE.


BBRMBLLL
BRMMBBLLL
BBRMM

HEY, BRINDLEFACE!
HOW ARE THE KITS?
WELL, THIS RAIN'S KEEPING US INSIDE.
BUT AT LEAST WE'RE DRY!
HI!
HEY!
FIREHEART, CHECK OUT MY WARRIOR'S STANCE!
HISSSS!!
WOW!
WHEN IT STOPS RAINING, CAN I COME ON A WARRIOR PATROL WITH YOU?
MAYBE WHEN YOU'RE OLDER, CLOUDKIT.
YUCK!

ALL THIS RAIN...
IT CAN'T LAST MUCH LONGER THAN THIS, BUT I'M WORRIED ABOUT THE FLOODING.
THAT SOUNDS LIKE *RIVERCLAN'S PROBLEM.*
SOMETHING LIKE THIS IS BIGGER THAN CLAN RIVALRIES, DARKSTRIPE.
I'D HATE TO HEAR OF ANY RIVERCLAN CATS DROWNING...
...AND THE WATER COULD SPREAD TO OUR TERRITORY IN THE FLICK OF A WHISKER!
TIGERCLAW, ORGANIZE A FEW PATROLS TO GO SEE HOW FAR THE WATER HAS SPREAD.
YES, BLUESTAR.

GRAYSTRIPE AND I CAN GO CHECK SUNNINGROCKS.
HMPH.
FINE.
LOOK!

SUNNINGROCKS IS TOTALLY FLOODED!

FIREHEART, WHAT IF SILVERSTREAM IS...
WAIT.
DO YOU HEAR THAT?
OUT THERE ON THE ROCKS!

ARE THOSE KITS?!
AAAAA!!
WHAT ARE THEY DOING OUT THERE?
THEY MUST HAVE GOTTEN WASHED DOWN HERE IN THE RAIN!
COME ON!
WE CAN'T JUST LEAVE THEM THERE!

HOLD ON!
WE'RE COMING TO HELP!
GOTCHA!

THANK STARCLAN, THEY'RE OKAY!
THEY MUST BE RIVERCLAN.
SNIFF SNIFF
THEY WON'T LAST LONG IF WE CAN'T GET THEM BACK TO THEIR MOTHER...
BUT HOW CAN WE CROSS THE WATER NOW?
I THINK I SAW A FALLEN TREE WE CAN CROSS.

THUNDERCLAN CATS?!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING TRESPASSING ON RIVERCLAN TERRITORY...
...WITH RIVERCLAN KITS?
THESE ARE MISTYFOOT'S KITS!
STONE-FUH!
DID YOU STEAL THEM?

WE *SAVED* THESE KITS FROM THE RIVER!
IF WE *WERE* STEALING THEM, WHY WOULD WE RISK CROSSING THE FLOOD *AGAIN*?!
DO YOU THINK WE *NEARLY DROWNED OURSELVES* JUST FOR *FUN*?
...
FINE.
COME WITH US.
WE'LL LET YOU EXPLAIN TO *CROOKEDSTAR* YOURSELVES.
...*THUNDERCLAN SPIES*?

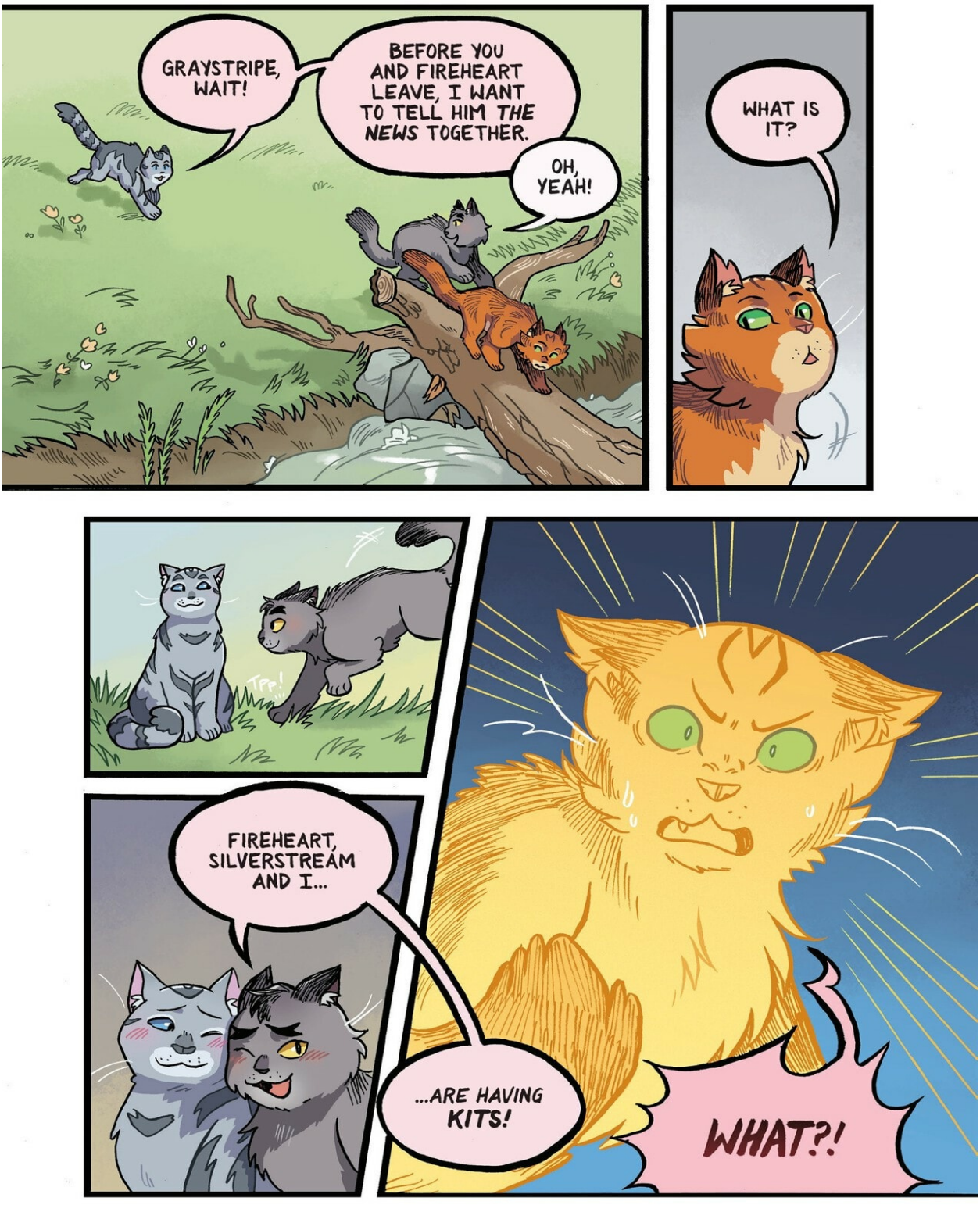
AS IF WE DIDN'T HAVE *ENOUGH* TROUBLE ALREADY, FLOODED OUT OF OUR OWN CAMP!
THEY CLAIM TO HAVE PULLED MISTYFOOT'S KITS FROM THE RIVER.
FIREHEART, RIGHT?
TELL US ALL WHAT HAPPENED.
WE SAW THE KITS AT SUNNINGROCKS, CLINGING TO TWIGS AND TWOLEG TRASH TO STAY AFLOAT.
WE JUMPED IN TO RESCUE THEM, GUESSED THEY WERE RIVERCLAN, AND CROSSED THE FLOOD TO BRING THEM BACK.
MY KITS!

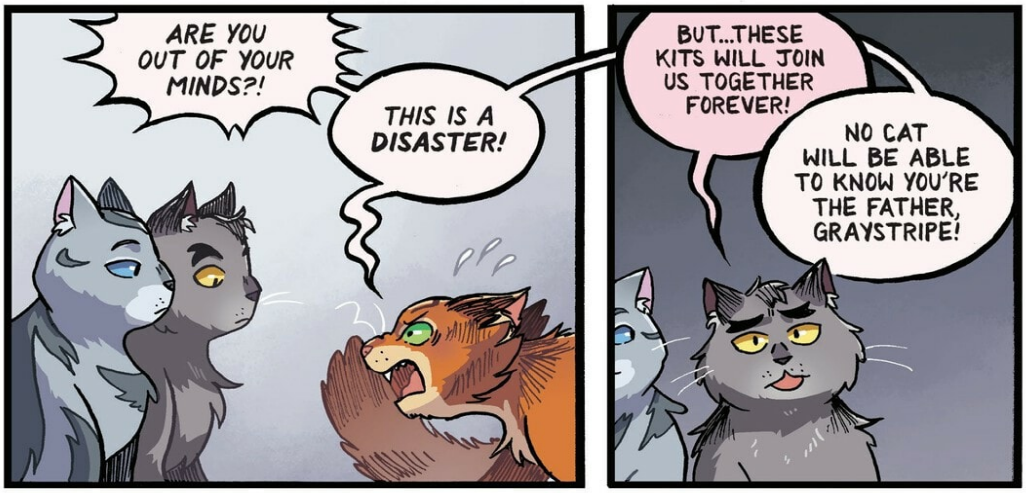
YOU EXPECT US TO *BELIEVE* THAT?
FIREHEART'S STORY MAKES SENSE.
TWO OF MISTYFOOT'S KITS WENT MISSING WHEN WE WERE MOVING HER LITTER FROM THE NURSERY IN THE RAIN.
THEY MUST HAVE BEEN SWEPT DOWNRIVER TO SUNNINGROCKS.
THE WARRIOR CODE WOULDN'T ALLOW THEM TO JUST LET THE KITS DROWN.
IN THAT CASE, WE ARE GRATEFUL TO YOU TWO.
IS THERE ANYTHING ELSE WE CAN DO?
IF YOUR CAMP IS FLOODED AND THERE'S NO PREY--

WE NEED NO HELP FROM THUNDERCLAN.
RIVERCLAN CATS CAN TAKE CARE OF OURSELVES.
DON'T BE A FOOL, CROOKEDSTAR.
YOU'RE TOO PROUD FOR YOUR OWN GOOD.
HOW CAN WE FEED OURSELVES WHEN THE RIVER'S PRACTICALLY POISON?
WHAT?!
TWOLEGS.
THEY FILLED OUR RIVER WITH THEIR RUBBISH.
THE FEW FISH WE CAN CATCH IN THOSE WATERS MAKE OUR CATS SICK.

THEN LET US HELP!
WE CAN BRING YOU PREY FROM *OUR TERRITORY* UNTIL YOU HAVE RECOVERED FROM THE FLOOD.
YOU WOULD DO THAT FOR *US*?
IT'S AGAINST THE WARRIOR CODE, *BUT*...
...*SURELY* STARCLAN WOULDN'T WANT US TO LEAVE RIVERCLAN TO *STARVE!*
YES.
AND I'LL HELP, TOO!

...RIVERCLAN IS GRATEFUL TO YOU.
BUT ONLY UNTIL WE HAVE RECOVERED.
AFTER THAT, WE WILL FEND FOR OURSELVES AGAIN, AND YOU WILL NO LONGER BE WELCOME IN OUR TERRITORY.
THANK YOU BOTH.
I WON'T FORGET THIS.


GRAYSTRIPE, WAIT!
BEFORE YOU AND FIREHEART LEAVE, I WANT TO TELL HIM *THE NEWS* TOGETHER.
OH, YEAH!
WHAT IS IT?
TPP!
FIREHEART, SILVERSTREAM AND I...
...ARE HAVING KITS!
WHAT?!


ARE YOU OUT OF YOUR MINDS?!
THIS IS A DISASTER!
BUT...THESE KITS WILL JOIN US TOGETHER FOREVER!
NO CAT WILL BE ABLE TO KNOW YOU'RE THE FATHER, GRAYSTRIPE!

I'LL KNOW.
THAT'S ALL THAT MATTERS.
WE'VE DONE NOTHING TO BE ASHAMED OF.
THEY'LL BE THE MOST BEAUTIFUL KITS IN THE FOREST!

WE SHOULD GET GOING, GRAYSTRIPE.
THE CATS BACK AT CAMP WILL WONDER WHERE WE WENT.

I CAN REPORT TO BLUESTAR.
GO GET DRIED OFF.

WELL, FIREHEART?

I HOPE YOU HAVE *A GOOD REASON* FOR BEING *LATE*.
I'M SORRY FOR MAKING YOU WAIT, BLUESTAR.

SUNNINGROCKS WAS COMPLETELY FLOODED.
WE SPOTTED SOME KITS ADRIFT IN THE WATER AND RESCUED THEM.

RIVERCLAN KITS?
YES.
WE WERE ABLE TO GET THEM BACK TO THEIR MOTHER, MISTYFOOT.

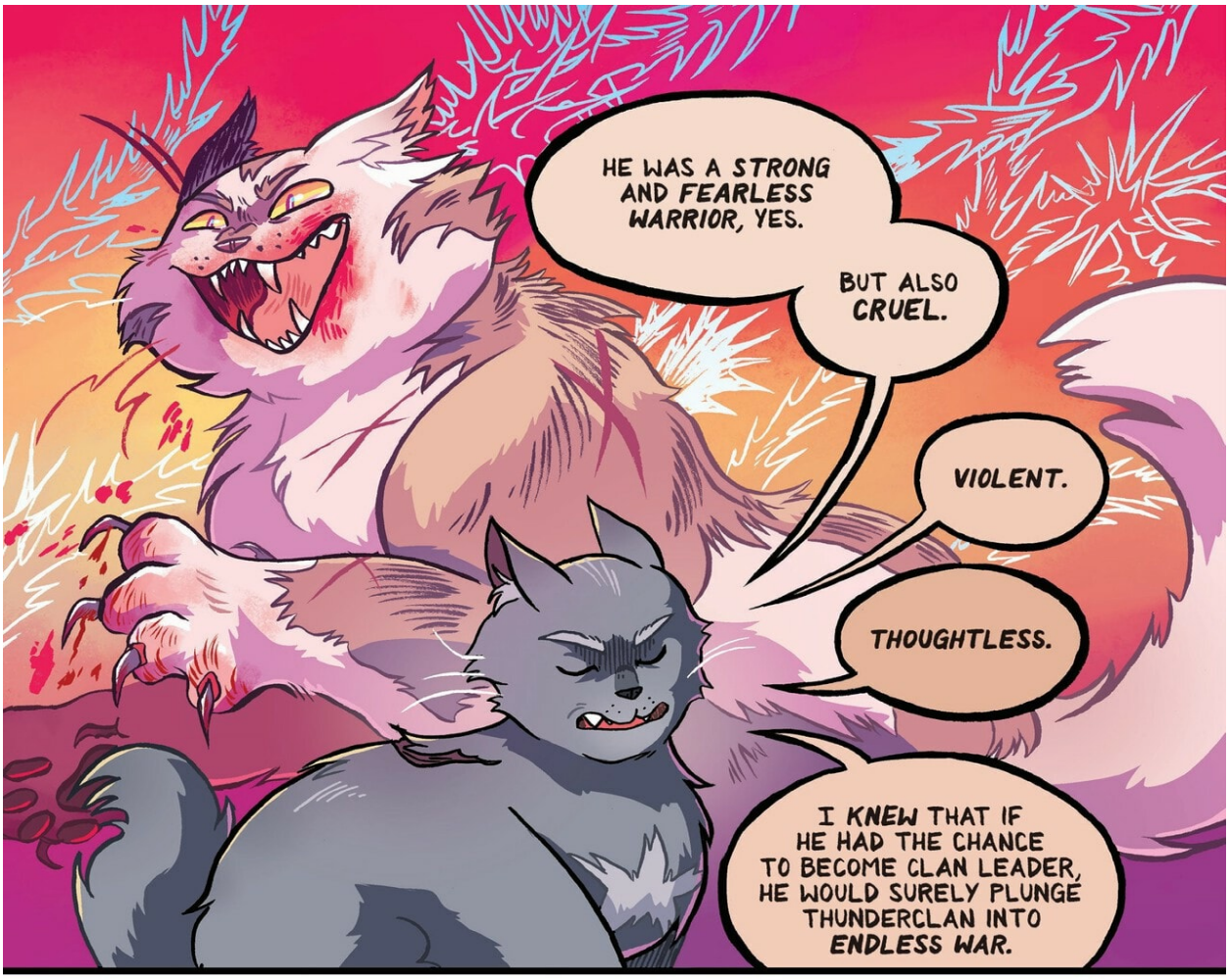
MISTYFOOT'S KITS?
THEY'RE SAFE, AND HEALTHY?
YES?
GOOD.
I SEE.
...

...
FIREHEART.
I OWE YOU AN EXPLANATION.
I REACTED RASHLY THE OTHER DAY, BUT I SEE NOW...
...THAT IT'S TIME SOME CAT KNEW THE TRUTH.
THE RIVERCLAN CATS YOU SPOKE TO ME ABOUT, MISTYFOOT AND STONEFUR...
...ARE MY KITS.
I AM THEIR MOTHER.

OAKHEART AND I WERE YOUNG AND FOOLISH.
WE DIDN'T STAY MATES FOR LONG.
WHEN I FOUND OUT I WAS GOING TO HAVE KITS, I DECIDED TO BEAR THEM FOR THUNDERCLAN.
NO CAT ASKED ME WHO THE FATHER WAS.
IT'S A QUEEN'S CHOICE TO TELL OR NOT.
THEN, OUR DEPUTY, TAWNYSPOTS, DECIDED TO RETIRE, LEAVING AN OPENING.

I HAD A GOOD CHANCE OF BEING CHOSEN TO REPLACE HIM, BUT THE CLAN WOULD NEVER ACCEPT A NURSING QUEEN AS DEPUTY.
WAS THERE NO OTHER CAT WHO COULD BE DEPUTY?

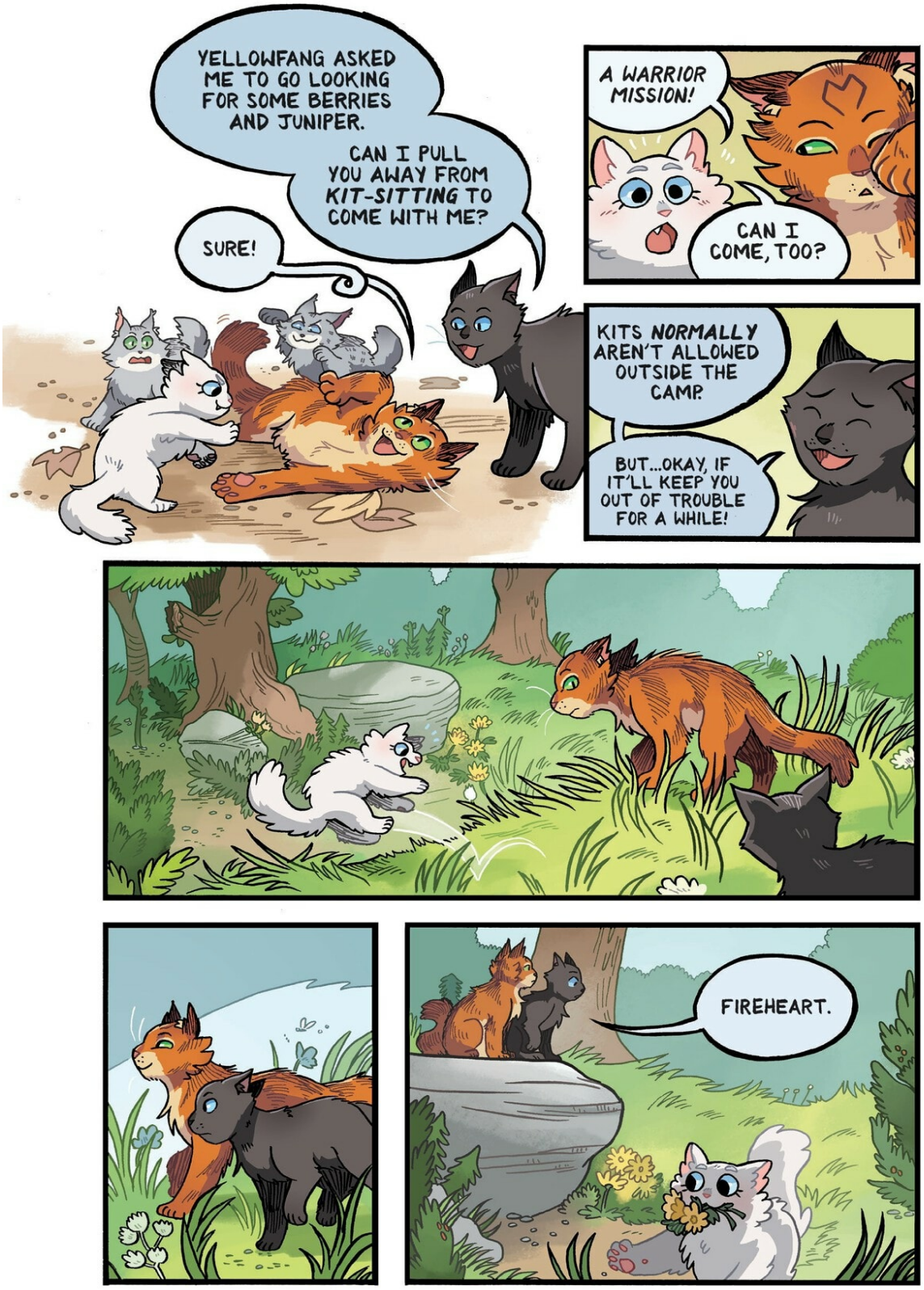
THERE WAS ONLY THISTLECLAW.


HE WAS A STRONG AND FEARLESS WARRIOR, YES.
BUT ALSO CRUEL.
VIOLENT.
THOUGHTLESS.
I KNEW THAT IF HE HAD THE CHANCE TO BECOME CLAN LEADER, HE WOULD SURELY PLUNGE THUNDERCLAN INTO ENDLESS WAR.

WATCH MY KIN GROW UP STRANGERS TO ME, OR WATCH MY OWN CLAN BE DESTROYED?
SOMETIMES, THERE ARE NO RIGHT ANSWERS.

IN THE END, OAKHEART OFFERED THEM A HOME IN RIVERCLAN.
THAT WAS A BITTER LEAF-BARE, BUT THEY HAD FISH TO SPARE.
AT LEAST MY KITS WOULDN'T GO HUNGRY.

I MADE IT LOOK LIKE A FOX HAD TAKEN THEM.
THE WHOLE CLAN GRIEVED.
I GRIEVED.
BUT I HAD MADE MY CHOICE.
I BECAME LEADER.
ONE OF MY KITS DIED ON THE JOURNEY TO RIVERCLAN.
THE TWO THAT SURVIVED GREW UP TO BE BRAVE, BEAUTIFUL CATS.
I'M SO SORRY...
I CAN'T IMAGINE WHAT IT WAS LIKE.
IT WAS THE MOST PAINFUL THING I HAVE EVER DONE.
WORSE THAN ANY OF THE LIVES I LOST.
I WON'T TELL ANY OTHER CAT.
THANK YOU.
THUNDERCLAN DOESN'T NEED ANY MORE TROUBLE RIGHT NOW.


YELLOWFANG ASKED ME TO GO LOOKING FOR SOME BERRIES AND JUNIPER.
CAN I PULL YOU AWAY FROM KIT-SITTING TO COME WITH ME?
SURE!
A WARRIOR MISSION!
CAN I COME, TOO?
KITS NORMALLY AREN'T ALLOWED OUTSIDE THE CAMP.
BUT...OKAY, IF IT'LL KEEP YOU OUT OF TROUBLE FOR A WHILE!
FIREHEART.

MY LEG'S HEALED ABOUT AS MUCH AS IT'S GOING TO.
I DON'T KNOW WHAT I WANT TO DO.
YOU COULD COME BACK TO *WARRIOR TRAINING*, IF YOU WANT.
YOU CAN STILL BE A WARRIOR WITH YOUR LEG.
PLENTY OF CATS WITH INJURIES GO ON TO BE FINE WARRIORS.
DEADFOOT FROM WINDCLAN IS DEPUTY OF *HIS* CLAN, AND--
...
EVER SINCE I WAS A TINY KIT, I WANTED TO BE JUST LIKE *BLUESTAR*.
SHE'S NOBLE, AND STRONG, AND GIVES HER WHOLE SELF TO THE CLAN.

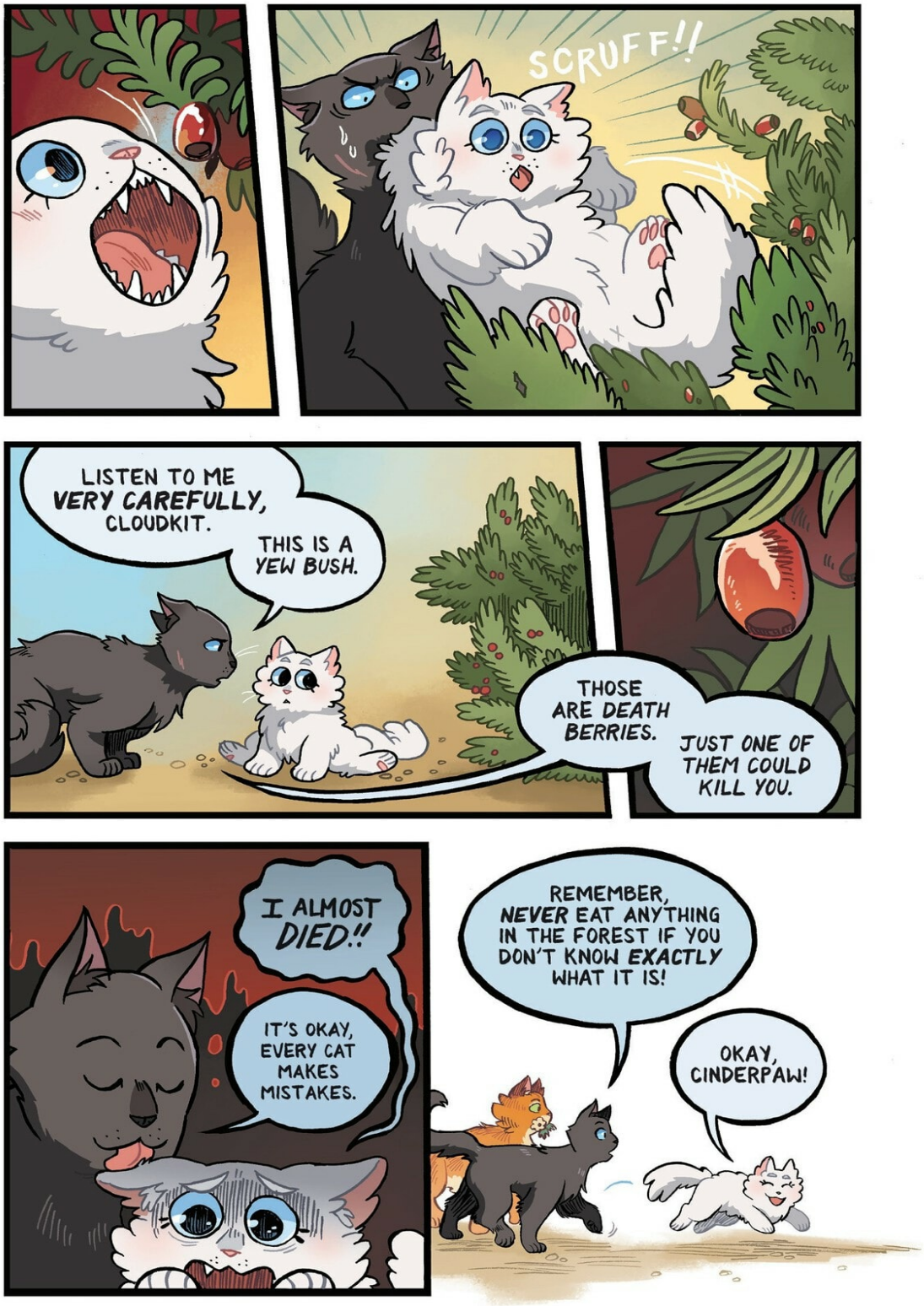
BUT I'VE BEEN GETTING TO KNOW *YELLOWFANG*, AND SHE'S STRONG TOO.
SHE'S SHARP AND LOVES THE CLAN IN HER OWN WAY.
I CAN TELL SHE WANTS ME TO STAY AND LEARN MORE FROM HER.
SO...
WHAT FUTURE DO *YOU* WANT, CINDERPAW?
I WANT...

...I WANT TO BE A MEDICINE CAT!

I'LL ALWAYS APPRECIATE EVERYTHING YOU TAUGHT ME.
BUT I THINK THIS WAY I CAN MAKE A REAL DIFFERENCE FOR THUNDERCLAN.
YOU'LL ALWAYS BE MY MENTOR AND MY FRIEND, FIREHEART.
I KNOW.
I'M PROUD OF YOU, CINDERPAW.

SO IF I'M NOT YOUR APPRENTICE ANYMORE, DO YOU THINK BLUESTAR WILL ASK YOU TO MENTOR CLOUDKIT?
MAYBE.
HE'S--

CLOUDKIT, STOP!!

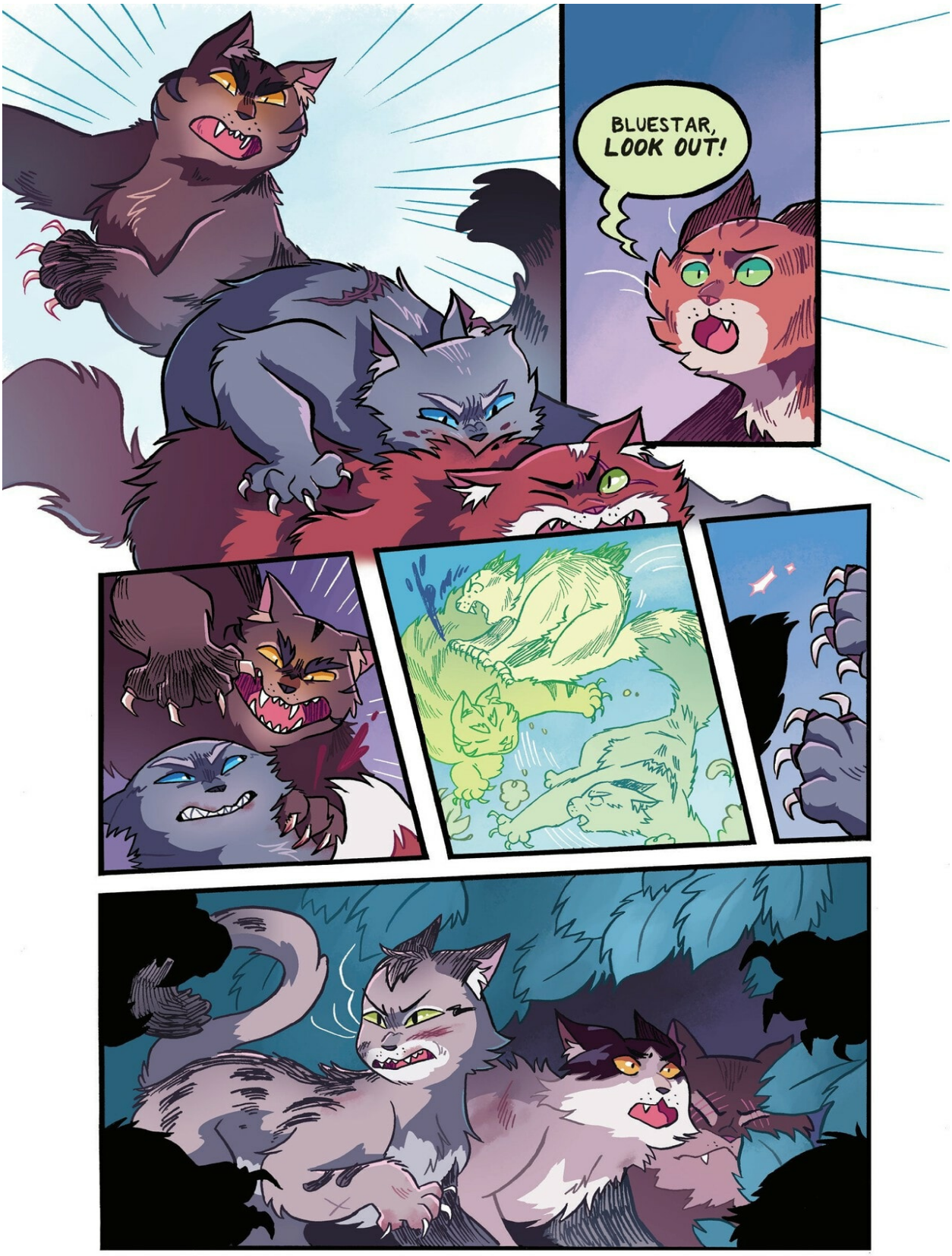

SCRUFF!!
LISTEN TO ME VERY CAREFULLY, CLOUDKIT.
THIS IS A YEW BUSH.
THOSE ARE DEATH BERRIES.
JUST ONE OF THEM COULD KILL YOU.
I ALMOST DIED!!
IT'S OKAY, EVERY CAT MAKES MISTAKES.
REMEMBER, NEVER EAT ANYTHING IN THE FOREST IF YOU DON'T KNOW EXACTLY WHAT IT IS!
OKAY, CINDERPAW!

WINDCLAN!
SHADOWCLAN!

ATTACK!
FIREHEART!
RAISE THE ALARM AND WARN BLUESTAR!
NOD!

FIREHEART, WHAT'S GOING ON?
SHADOWCLAN AND WINDCLAN ARE ATTACKING!
THEY'RE AT THE GORSE TUNNEL!
THEY'RE HERE FOR BROKENTAIL.
WARRIORS!
WE MUST DEFEND THE CAMP!

MORNINGFLOWER?
I CARRIED HER KIT ACROSS THE THUNDERPATH BACK WHEN WE BROUGHT WINDCLAN HOME...
HISS!


BLUESTAR, LOOK OUT!

HISS!
YOU MAY HAVE WON THIS BATTLE...
BUT YOU CAN'T PROTECT HIM FOREVER!

BLUESTAR!
HOW LONG ARE YOU GOING TO MAKE US DEFEND BROKENTAIL?
HOW LONG BEFORE ONE OF US HAS TO DIE FOR HIM?!
WE MUST DO WHAT IS RIGHT, DARKSTRIPE.
WHAT'S RIGHT FOR BROKENTAIL IS MY TEETH IN HIS THROAT!
DARKSTRIPE.

SHOW SOME RESPECT FOR YOUR LEADER.
I'LL TAKE THE NEXT WATCH ON BROKENTAIL.
UH--
DID I MISS SOMETHING?

GRAYSTRIPE, WE NEED TO TALK.
WHAT, NOW?
YES.
NOW.
WELL?
WHAT'S YOUR PROBLEM?
MY PROBLEM?

GRAYSTRIPE, YOU'RE NEVER AROUND!
ONE PAWSTEP YOU SAY, "OHH, FIREHEART, I'D GIVE MY LIFE FOR YOU"
AND THE NEXT, I'M HERE GETTING CLAWED TO PIECES WHILE YOU'RE OFF NUZZLING WITH SILVERSTREAM!
WE BOTH AGREED TO FEED RIVERCLAN.
WE BOTH ALREADY BROUGHT THEM FRESH-KILL BEFORE SUNRISE THIS MORNING.
OR ARE YOU GOING TO TELL ME IT TOOK YOU ALL NIGHT TO CATCH A SINGLE MOUSE?
I KNOW YOU LOVE HER, BUT I CAN'T COVER FOR YOU FOREVER.
GRAYSTRIPE...
THUNDERCLAN NEEDS YOU.

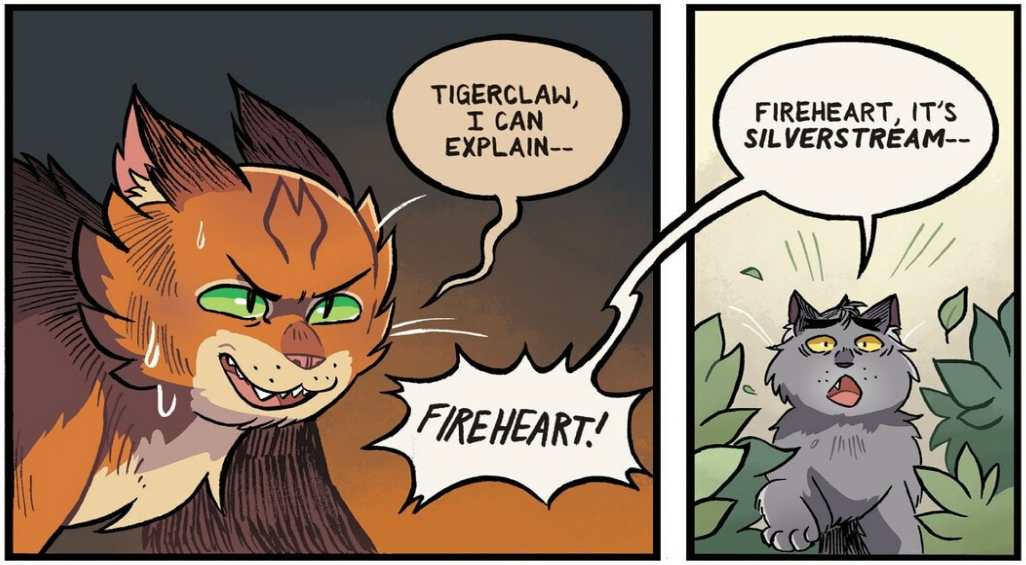
WHAT ABOUT BRACKENPAW?
WHAT ABOUT HIM?
YOU HAVEN'T TAUGHT HIM ANYTHING IN MOONS!
IF TIGERCLAW FINDS OUT--
HISS!
I ALREADY TOLD YOU!
I DON'T NEED PROTECTING.
I CAN MAKE MY OWN CHOICES!
BUT WHAT IF YOU REGRET THE CHOICE YOU DO MAKE?
...
SOME THINGS MATTER MORE THAN CLAN LOYALTY.
I WOULD NEVER REGRET FOLLOWING MY HEART.
WHY CAN'T YOU JUST BE HAPPY FOR US?

FINE.
I'M DONE TALKING ABOUT THIS.
YOU CAN DEAL WITH TIGERCLAW AND THE REST BY YOURSELF.
BLUESTAR WAS *RIGHT*.
SOMETIMES, THERE ARE NO RIGHT CHOICES.
HELLO, FIREHEART!

NO GRAYSTRIPE TODAY?
NO.
I HAVEN'T SEEN HIM SINCE LAST NIGHT.
SILVERSTREAM HASN'T BEEN AROUND, EITHER.
HER KITS ARE ALMOST HERE! SHE SHOULD BE IN THE NURSERY!
!
YES, I KNOW.
BUT NO OTHER RIVERCLAN CATS DO.
TPT!
I DON'T LIKE IT, BUT I WON'T TELL, EITHER.
NO MATTER THEIR FATHER, I'M LOOKING FORWARD TO WATCHING OUR KITS GROW UP TOGETHER.
HOW ARE YOUR KITS?
GOOD.
HEALTHY.
GRAYPOOL'S KEEPING AN EYE ON THEM FOR ME, SO I'D BETTER GET BACK.
BE CAREFUL ON THE STEPPING STONES!

I CAN'T BELIEVE I DIDN'T SEE IT BEFORE.
SHE'S ALMOST AN EXACT COPY OF BLUESTAR!
I WONDER IF GRAYSTRIPE'S KITS WILL LOOK--
HEY, FIREHEART!
CLOUDKIT?!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING OUTSIDE OF CAMP?!
FOLLOWING YOU!
I TRACKED YOU ALL THE WAY HERE!
WHO WAS THAT CAT?
ARE YOU ON A SECRET WARRIOR MISSION?
YES, FIREHEART.

WHAT WAS IT YOU WERE DOING...
...BRINGING THUNDERCLAN'S PREY TO FEED AN ENEMY CLAN?


TIGERCLAW, I CAN EXPLAIN--
FIREHEART!
FIREHEART, IT'S SILVERSTREAM--

GRAYSTRIPE, I'M DONE HELPING YOU WITH--
IT'S THE KITS!
HER KITS ARE COMING, BUT SOMETHING'S GONE WRONG!
I NEED YOU TO BRING YELLOWFANG TO SUNNINGROCKS.
PLEASE, HURRY!

YOU'RE DOING GREAT, SILVERSTREAM.

WE NEED TO STOP THE BLEEDING.

GRAYSTRIPE, GET HER TO EAT AS MUCH OF THIS HERB AS YOU CAN.

FIREHEART!
HERE.
I NEED YOU TO WARM UP THIS KIT.
YOU TOO, TIGERCLAW.
I'M NOT A MEDICINE CAT!
DO YOU WANT THIS KIT TO DIE?!
HISS!
LICK, YOU USELESS LUMP OF FUR!
D-DON'T WORRY, SILVERSTREAM.
HOLD ON!

GRAYSTRIPE...

GOODBYE, GRAYSTRIPE.
I LOVE YOU.
TAKE CARE OF OUR KITS.

S-
S-
SILVERSTREAM!

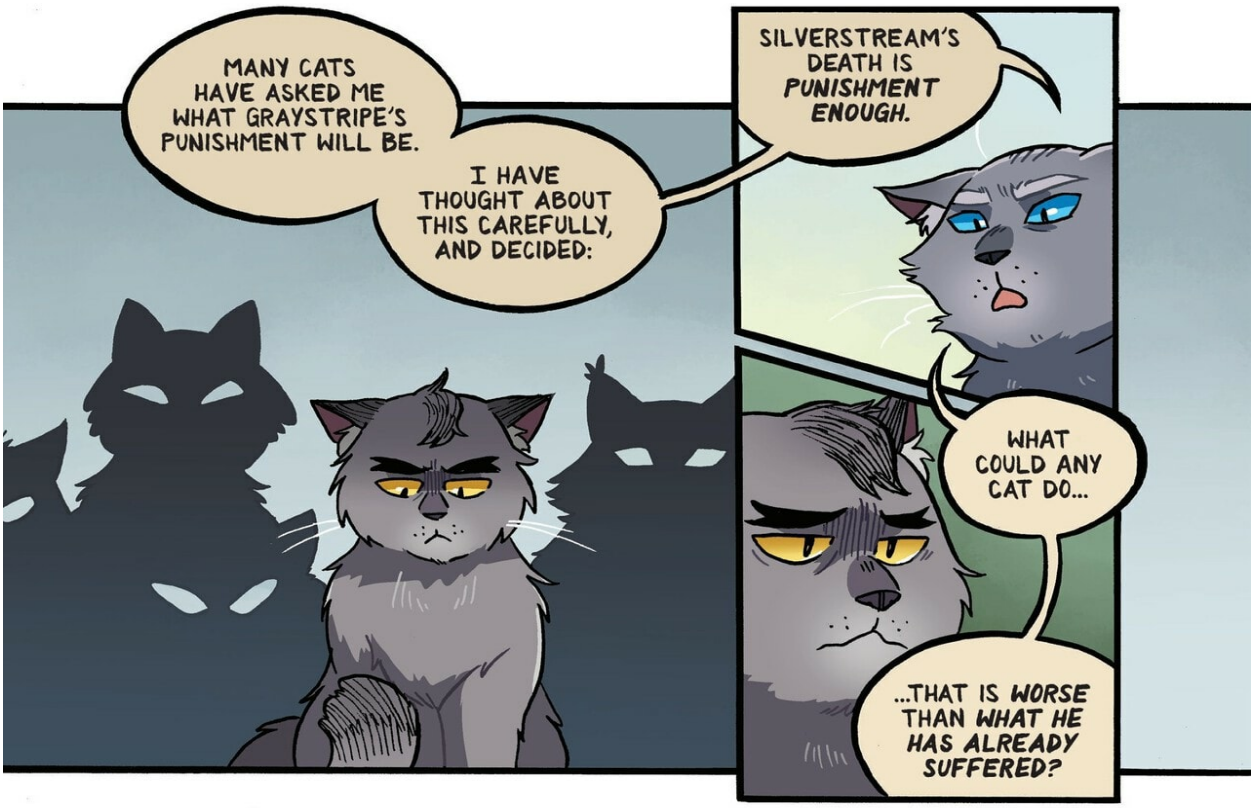
SILVERSTREAM!!

I lost her...
sob
sob
SILVERS

STOP THAT MOANING.
DO YOU KNOW THIS RIVERCLAN CAT?
WHAT WAS SHE DOING HERE?
ANSWER ME!
I LOVED HER.
SO THESE ARE YOUR KITS?
MINE AND SILVERSTREAM'S.
I ALREADY KNOW WHAT YOU'LL SAY, TIGERCLAW, AND I DON'T CARE.
DON'T BOTHER SAYING IT.

WE NEED TO GET THEM BACK TO CAMP AND FIND A QUEEN WHO WILL NURSE THEM.
MAYBE GOLDENFLOWER.
SHE JUST HAD HER KITS.
DO YOU WANT TO COME WITH US?
I HAVE TO STAY HERE AND BURY HER.

HERE, BETWEEN RIVERCLAN AND THUNDERCLAN.
JUST LIKE US.
CATS OF THUNDERCLAN, I'VE CALLED YOU HERE FOR TWO REASONS.
I'LL START WITH THE BAD.
YOU ALL KNOW WHAT HAPPENED A FEW DAYS AGO:
SILVERSTREAM OF RIVERCLAN DIED GIVING BIRTH TO GRAYSTRIPE'S KITS.


MANY CATS HAVE ASKED ME WHAT GRAYSTRIPE'S PUNISHMENT WILL BE.
I HAVE THOUGHT ABOUT THIS CAREFULLY, AND DECIDED:
SILVERSTREAM'S DEATH IS *PUNISHMENT ENOUGH.*
WHAT COULD ANY CAT DO...
...THAT IS *WORSE* THAN *WHAT HE HAS ALREADY SUFFERED?*

WE DON'T WANT HIM IN THE CLAN!
HE'S A TRAITOR!
IF YOU EVER BECOME LEADER, LONGTAIL, THESE DECISIONS WILL BE YOURS TO MAKE.
UNTIL THEN, RESPECT MINE.
NOW, I CAN TURN TO A HAPPIER DUTY.

CLOUDKIT HAS REACHED HIS SIXTH MOON AND IS READY TO BECOME AN APPRENTICE.
FIREHEART, YOU ARE READY FOR A NEW APPRENTICE, AND CLOUDPAW IS YOUR SISTER'S KIT.
YOU WILL BE HIS MENTOR.
I'M CLOUDPAW!!
CLOUDPAW!
CLOUDPAW!
CLOUDPAW!
TCH.
TRAITORS AND KITTYPETS...

...IS THERE NO DECENT WARRIOR LEFT IN THIS CLAN?
THEY'RE ONLY KITS, SPECKLETAIL!
HALF-RIVERCLAN KITS!
WHAT'S GOT YOUR WHISKERS TWISTED?
...
YELLOWFANG...
I LOST SILVERSTREAM.
YOU DID YOUR DUTY.
NO CAT IS MAD AT YOU.

WHAT IF I'M NOT GOOD ENOUGH TO BE A MEDICINE CAT?
THAT'S THE MOST MOUSE-BRAINED THING I'VE EVER HEARD.
IT'S A HARD LESSON, BUT SOMETIMES CATS DIE, AND NO CAT CAN DO ANYTHING ABOUT IT BUT EASE THEIR PASSAGE.
NOT EVEN ME.
I'VE LOST CATS.
MORE THAN I CARE TO COUNT.
EVERY MEDICINE CAT HAS.
YOU LIVE WITH IT.
YOU KEEP GOING.

YAAAWN!~
NOT MANY CATS IN CAMP THIS MORNING, HUH?
TIGERCLAW'S BEEN SENDING OUT A LOT OF PATROLS.
HE MUST STILL BE WORRIED ABOUT WINDCLAN AND SHADOWCLAN.
HOW ARE MY KITS? ARE THEY EATING ENOUGH?
SLEEPING? HOW IS THEIR--
THEY'RE *FINE*, GRAYSTRIPE. GOLDENFLOWER KNOWS WHAT SHE'S DOING!
READY FOR TRAINING, CLOUDPAW?
BORN READY!
HOW'S SLEEPING IN THE APPRENTICES' DEN?
GREAT!
I GOT BRACKENFUR'S OLD NEST NOW THAT HE'S A WARRIOR.

BRIGHTPAW AND THORNPAW ARE NICE, BUT SWIFTPAW IS LONGTAIL'S APPRENTICE...
...AND LONGTAIL SAYS I CAN'T BE A WARRIOR BECAUSE I WASN'T BORN IN THE FOREST!
WELL, LONGTAIL'S WRONG.
YOU SHOULD ASK HIM HOW HE GOT THAT NICK IN HIS EAR!
GOOD.
CAN YOU SHOW ME YOUR BEST MOUSE APPROACH?
DO YOU REMEMBER WHAT I TOLD YOU ABOUT MICE AND RABBITS?
GET DOWNWIND SO RABBITS DON'T SMELL YOU.
STEP SOFTLY SO MICE DON'T HEAR YOU!
YEAH!

FIREHEART! I WENT TO DO MY MOUSE APPROACH LIKE YOU SAID, BUT THEN...
I SAW SOME STRANGE CATS!
WELL, ONE OF THEM WAS TIGERCLAW, OUR DEPUTY.
BUT HE WAS RUNNING TOWARD THUNDERCLAN CAMP WITH A BUNCH OF MANGY CATS!
DID YOU RECOGNIZE THEM?
NO.
THEY SMELLED LIKE CROW-FOOD.
AND...
THEY SMELLED LIKE BROKENTAIL!
THE ROGUES!
WHY WOULD TIGERCLAW BE LEADING THEM TO OUR CAMP?!

I DON'T LIKE THIS.
WE HAVE TO GET BACK TO THE CAMP!
RUN!
RUN LIKE YOU'VE NEVER RUN BEFORE!
TIGERCLAW LED THE ROGUES STRAIGHT INTO CAMP!

THUNDERCLAN, LOOK OUT!
ENEMIES!
OHH NOOOO!
PAF!
GO AND FIND WHITESTORM AND MOUSEFUR'S PATROLS!
NOD!
HAS TIGERCLAW REALLY BETRAYED THUNDERCLAN?
WHY WOULD HE DO THAT?!

BLUESTAR!

TIGERCLAW?
WE CAN WORRY ABOUT THAT LATER. THE CLAN NEEDS US!
...
TIGERCLAW, WHAT IS THE MEANING OF THIS?
REMEMBER ME TO STARCLAN, BLUESTAR.
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
I'M YOUR CLAN LEADER, OR HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN THAT?!

NOT FOR MUCH LONGER.
I'M GOING TO KILL YOU, AND KILL YOU AGAIN.
AS MANY TIMES AS IT TAKES TO SEND YOU TO STARCLAN FOR GOOD.
IT'S TIME FOR ME TO LEAD THUNDERCLAN!

TRAITOR!!

MOUSE DUNG!
YOU KNOW WHAT?
I'VE BEEN WAITING A LONG TIME FOR THIS.
I'LL FLAY YOU, FIREHEART!
FINALLY.
TIGERCLAW'S SCHEMES ARE ALL OUT IN THE OPEN.
NO MORE LIES. NO MORE WAITING.
ALL THAT'S LEFT TO DO NOW IS TAKE HIM DOWN MYSELF!

YEOOOWWL!

YOOWLL!!!
BLUESTAR! HELP ME HOLD HIM!
FIREHEART, WE NEED--
OHH STARCLAN, IS THAT--
WHAT'S GOING ON?!
GRAYSTRIPE!

TIGERCLAW ATTACKED BLUESTAR.
RAVENPAW WAS *RIGHT*. HE IS A TRAITOR.
HE BROUGHT THE ROGUES HERE TO COVER HIS *ATTEMPT ON HER LIFE.*
grrk!
WE'RE LOSING THE FIGHT OUT THERE.
THERE ARE TOO MANY.
WE NEED BLUESTAR.
I'LL GO.
HELP BLUESTAR KEEP TIGERCLAW PINNED.
WE CAN DEAL WITH HIM LATER.
BE CAREFUL, FIREHEART!

BLUESTAR?
NO...

IT'S MISTYFOOT!
AND THE OTHER RIVERCLAN WARRIORS!

I RECOGNIZE SOME OF THE *SHADOWCLAN WARRIORS* WHO LEFT WITH BROKENSTAR.
YES.
HOW DID RIVERCLAN KNOW WE NEEDED HELP?

WE DIDN'T.
WE CAME TO SPEAK TO BLUESTAR ABOUT--
?
NOT NOW. THUNDERCLAN NEEDS TIME TO RECOVER.
TPT!
THANK YOU.
WE'RE GLAD TO HAVE HELPED.
TELL YOUR LEADER WE'LL RETURN LATER TO TALK.
THUNDERCLAN.

I PRESENT YOU WITH TIGERCLAW.
ONCE MY DEPUTY.
NOW A PRISONER.
WHAT?!
DURING THE BATTLE, TIGERCLAW ATTACKED ME.
HE WOULD HAVE KILLED ME IF FIREHEART DIDN'T STOP HIM.
THERE MUST BE SOME MISTAKE!
DO YOU THINK I CAN'T TELL WHEN A CAT IS TRYING TO MURDER ME?
BUT TIGERCLAW--

TIGERCLAW IS A TRAITOR TO THE CLAN, DARKSTRIPE.
WHO DO YOU THINK BROUGHT THOSE ROGUES HERE?
FIREHEART.
COME UP ON THE HIGHROCK.
TELL THE CLAN WHAT YOU KNOW.
C-
CATS OF THUNDERCLAN...

CATS OF THUNDERCLAN!
DO YOU REMEMBER WHEN REDTAIL DIED?
TIGERCLAW SAID IT WAS OAKHEART WHO KILLED HIM, BUT HE WAS LYING.
TIGERCLAW KILLED REDTAIL HIMSELF!
HOW WOULD YOU KNOW? YOU WEREN'T THERE!
I TALKED TO A CAT WHO WAS.
RAVENPAW TOLD ME.
HOW CONVENIENT.
A DEAD CAT WHO CAN'T TELL US THE STORY HIMSELF!
RAVENPAW ISN'T DEAD.
HE FLED THE CLAN AFTER TIGERCLAW TRIED TO KILL HIM FOR KNOWING TOO MUCH.

GRAYSTRIPE AND I SPOKE TO *RIVERCLAN CATS* WHO TOLD US THE SAME THING:
OAKHEART WAS KILLED IN A ROCKFALL. TIGERCLAW SAW HIS OPPORTUNITY, AND TOOK IT.
HE MUST HAVE EXPECTED TO BE MADE DEPUTY THEN, BUT BLUESTAR CHOSE *LIONHEART* INSTEAD.
WHEN *HE* DIED, TIGERCLAW ACHIEVED HIS AMBITION AT LAST.
BUT BEING *DEPUTY* WASN'T ENOUGH FOR HIM.
I THINK HE EVEN LAID *A TRAP* FOR BLUESTAR AT THE THUNDERPATH, BUT *CINDERPAW* WAS HURT INSTEAD.
THE ROGUES WERE JUST ANOTHER OPPORTUNITY TO PUT BLUESTAR'S LIVES IN DANGER.
FIREHEART CAME TO ME WITH HIS SUSPICIONS.
I DIDN'T--
I *COULDN'T* BELIEVE HIM.
I WAS WRONG TO TRUST MY OWN DEPUTY.

KILL HIM!
BLIND HIM!
DRIVE HIM OUT OF THE FOREST!
TIGERCLAW.
HAVE YOU ANYTHING TO SAY IN YOUR OWN DEFENSE?
DEFEND MYSELF TO YOU, YOU GUTLESS EXCUSE FOR A WARRIOR?
WHAT KIND OF LEADER HELPS THE OTHER CLANS AND TAKES IN KITTYPET STRAYS?!
I WOULD NEVER SHOW SUCH SOFTNESS!
I WOULD BRING BACK THE GLORIOUS DAYS OF TIGERCLAN!
I WOULD RULE THE GREATEST CLAN IN THE FOREST!

IF YOU HAVE NOTHING ELSE TO SAY, THEN I SENTENCE YOU TO EXILE.
LEAVE THUNDERCLAN TERRITORY NOW.
ANY CAT WHO SEES YOU HERE AFTER SUNRISE TOMORROW HAS MY PERMISSION TO KILL YOU.
D-DON'T THINK I'M FINISHED!
I WILL BE LEADER.
AND ANY CAT THAT COMES WITH ME WILL BE WELL LOOKED AFTER!
DARKSTRIPE?
LONGTAIL?
YOU PLOTTED WITH BROKENSTAR, TOLD ME NOTHING, AND EXPECT ME TO COME WITH YOU?
N-NO!
I'M LOYAL TO THUNDERCLAN!
...DUSTPELT?
TIGERCLAW...

I LOOKED UP TO YOU.
I WANTED TO BE JUST LIKE YOU.
BUT REDTAIL WAS MY MENTOR, AND I OWE HIM MORE THAN ANY CAT.
AND YOU KILLED HIM.
YOU KILLED HIM,
AND BETRAYED THE WHOLE CLAN!
I'D RATHER DIE THAN FOLLOW YOU!!
GET OUT!
HISS!
TRAITOR!
HISS!
YOWL!
ENOUGH OF THIS, TIGERCLAW.
GO. NOW.

I'M GOING.
BUT YOU CAN BE SURE I'LL BE BACK.
I'LL HAVE MY REVENGE.
AS FOR YOU, FIREHEART...
KEEP YOUR EYES OPEN AND YOUR EARS PRICKED.
KEEP LOOKING BEHIND YOU.
BECAUSE ONE DAY, I'LL FIND YOU, AND THEN...
...YOU'LL BE CROW-FOOD.

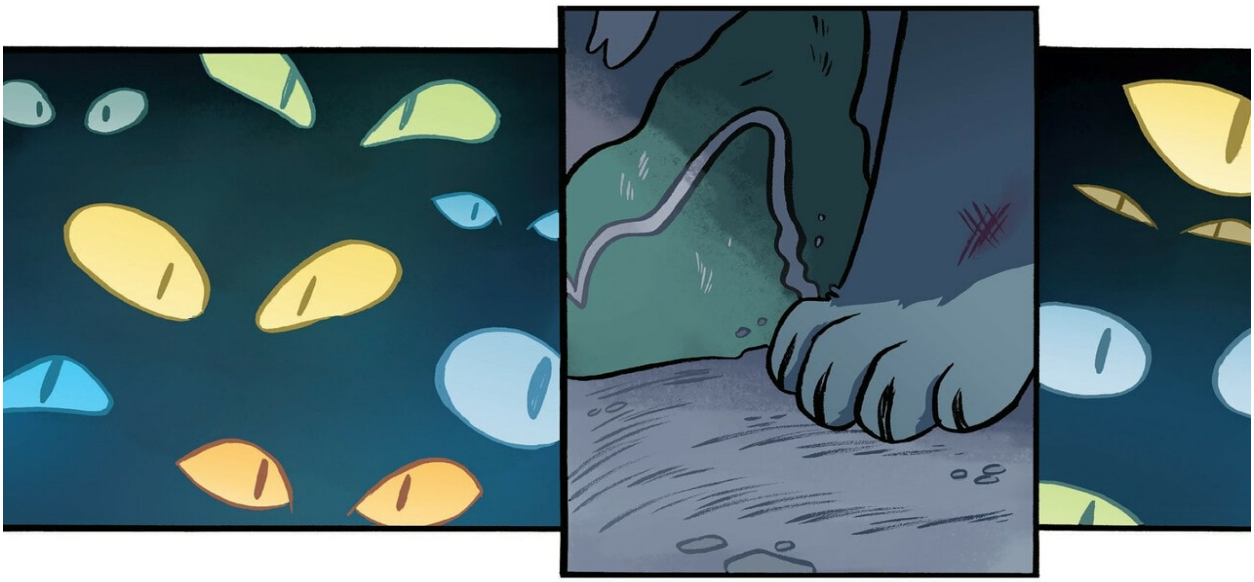
WHERE'S YELLOWFANG?
WE ALL TOOK A BEATING IN THE BATTLE...
I'LL GO FIND HER.

YELLOWFANG?

IS BROKENTAIL--
YES.
I DID EVERYTHING I COULD.
BUT HE STILL DIED.

NO CAT WILL EVER BE HARMED BY HIM AGAIN.
MOONHIGH HAS COME AND GONE, AND BLUESTAR *STILL* HASN'T COME OUT OF HER DEN TO CHOOSE THE NEW DEPUTY!
WE MUST HAVE A NEW DEPUTY!
STARCLAN WON'T LIKE THIS...

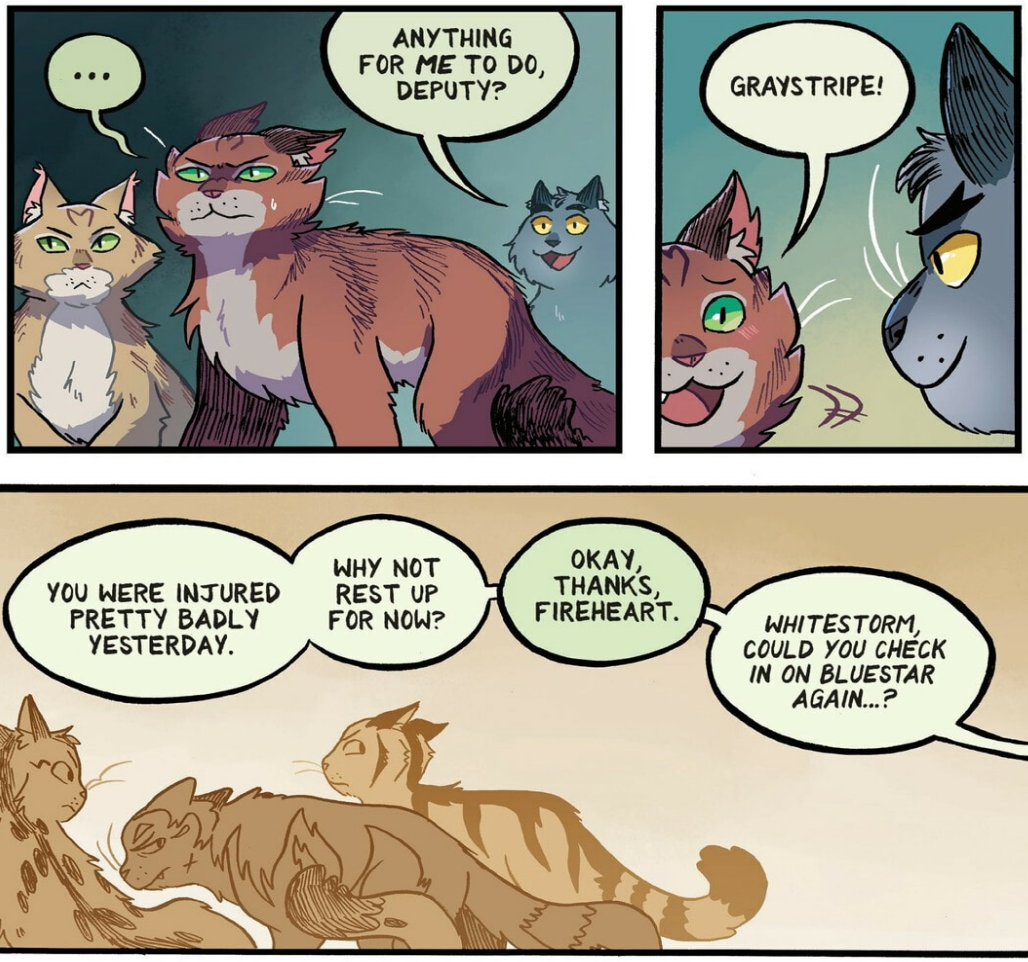
DO YOU THINK SHE'LL CHOOSE WHITESTORM?
MAYBE IT'LL BE FIREHEART!
I DON'T THINK SO.
IT'S NEARLY DAWN!
I KNOW.
WHITESTORM TRIED TO TALK TO HER EARLIER, BUT SHE SENT HIM AWAY.
BLUESTAR STILL WON'T COME OUT OF HER DEN.
SHE MUST BE IN SHOCK ABOUT TIGERCLAW...
WE ALL ARE.
BUT SHE'S THE LEADER OF OUR CLAN!
SHE CAN'T JUST CURL UP AND FORGET ABOUT THE REST OF US!



...
CATS OF THUNDERCLAN.
I SAY THESE WORDS BEFORE STARCLAN, SO THAT THE SPIRITS OF OUR ANCESTORS MAY HEAR AND APPROVE MY CHOICE.
THE NEW DEPUTY WILL BE...
FIREHEART.
ME?
DEPUTY OF THUNDERCLAN?!

PART THREE:
RISING STORM

WHAT SHOULD WE DO NOW?
UHH... YES.
FOOD!
WE ALL HAVE TO EAT.
CLOUDPAW, START TAKING FRESH-KILL TO THE ELDERS.
GET THE OTHER APPRENTICES TO HELP THE QUEENS IN THE NURSERY.
MOUSEFUR, DARKSTRIPE--
PICK TWO OR THREE WARRIORS EACH AND GO OUT ON A HUNTING PATROL.
SPLIT THE TERRITORY AND KEEP AN EYE OUT FOR TIGERCLAW AND THE ROGUES.
TCH.


...
ANYTHING FOR ME TO DO, DEPUTY?
GRAYSTRIPE!
YOU WERE INJURED PRETTY BADLY YESTERDAY.
WHY NOT REST UP FOR NOW?
OKAY, THANKS, FIREHEART.
WHITESTORM, COULD YOU CHECK IN ON BLUESTAR AGAIN...?
GREETINGS, THUNDERCLAN.
WE'VE RETURNED TO SPEAK WITH YOU ABOUT SILVERSTREAM'S KITS.

WE'VE TALKED FOR A LONG TIME, AND DECIDED THAT THEY BELONG IN *THEIR MOTHER'S CLAN.*
ONE OF OUR QUEENS, GREENFLOWER, HAS AGREED TO NURSE THEM. THEY WILL BE WELL CARED FOR--
THEY'RE WELL CARED FOR HERE!
THE KITS *ARE* HALF-THUNDERCLAN.
I TOLD YOU, YOU WILL HAVE MY DECISION AT THE NEXT GATHERING.
IT'S NOT YOUR DECISION TO MAKE, BLUESTAR.
BLUESTAR, YOU CAN'T SEND THEM AWAY!
THEY'RE GRAYSTRIPE'S KITS!
NO.
LEOPARDFUR IS RIGHT.

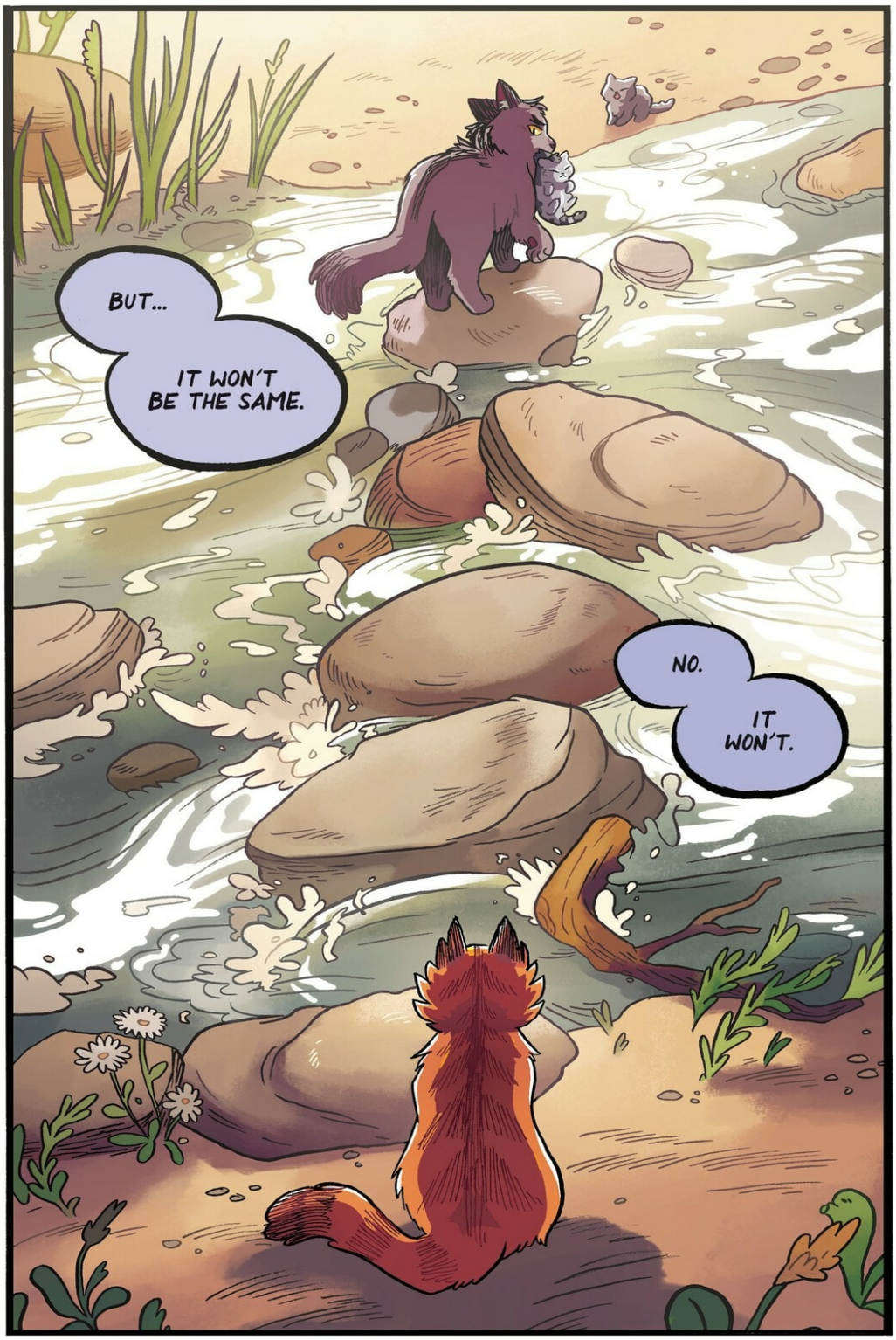
THE KITS BELONG IN RIVERCLAN.
I THINK WE SHOULD LET THEM GO.
GRAYSTRIPE, YOU CAN'T--
THUNDERCLAN'S FACED ENOUGH CONFLICT ALREADY.
I DON'T WANT ALL OF MY KITS' EARLIEST MEMORIES TO BE OF BLOODSHED.
WITH BLUESTAR'S APPROVAL...I WILL BRING THE KITS TO THE STEPPING STONES AT SUNSET.
YOU HAVE MY WORD.

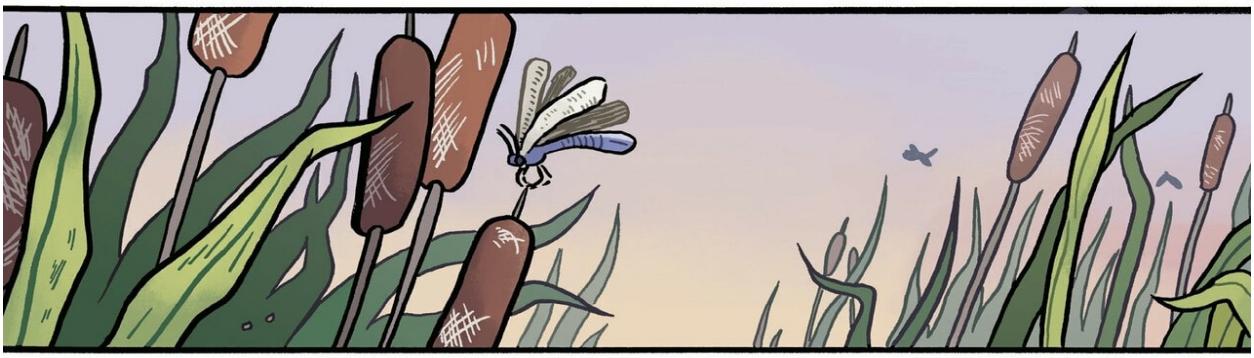
GRAYSTRIPE, YOU'RE SURE?
QUITE SURE.
THEN SO BE IT.
FAREWELL, MY BELOVEDS.

YOU WERE RIGHT, FIREHEART.
I CAN'T GIVE UP THE KITS.
THEY'RE ALL I HAVE LEFT OF SILVERSTREAM.
SO THAT'S WHY...
...I'M GOING WITH THEM.
TO JOIN RIVERCLAN.
WHAT?!

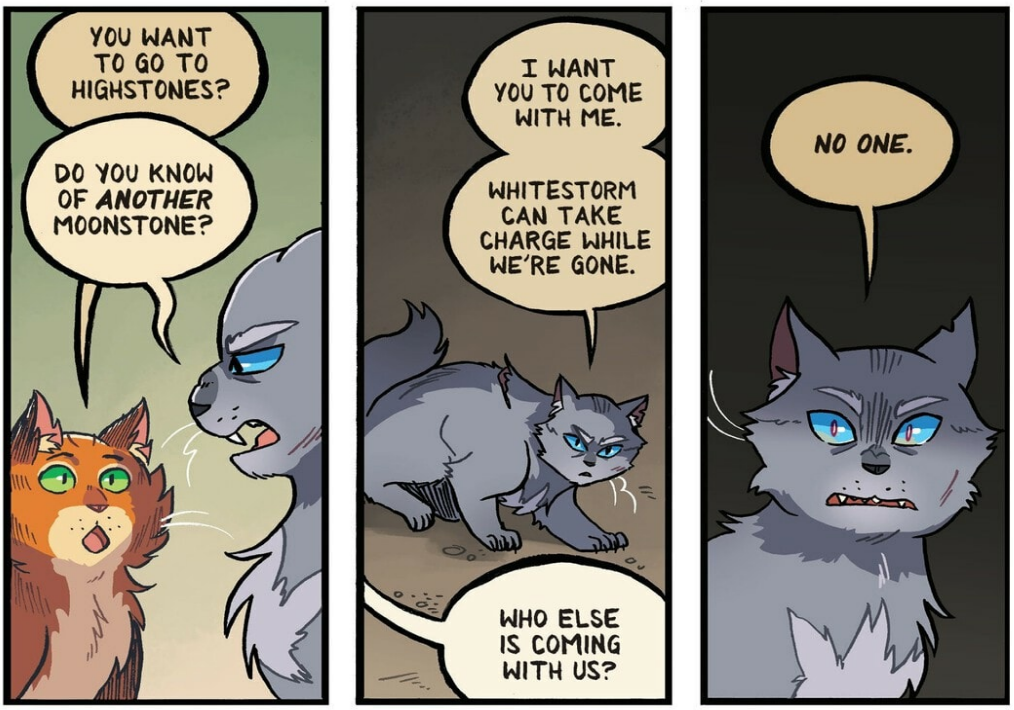
YOU CAN'T!
YOU BELONG IN THUNDERCLAN!
NOT ANYMORE.
THEY'LL NEVER TRUST ME AGAIN.
I DON'T EVEN KNOW IF I WANT THEM TO TRUST ME.
THEN WHAT ABOUT ME?
I WANT YOU HERE!
I TRUST YOU WITH MY LIFE.
I'D NEVER BETRAY YOU!
I KNOW.
NO CAT HAS EVER HAD A FRIEND LIKE YOU, FIREHEART.
BUT THE ONE THING I CAN'T DO FOR YOU...

...IS STAY.
IT'S TIME.
I'LL SEE YOU AT THE NEXT GATHERING.


BUT...
IT WON'T BE THE SAME.
NO.
IT WON'T.



FIREHEART.
I NEED TO SHARE DREAMS WITH STARCLAN.
I MUST TRAVEL TO THE MOONSTONE.


YOU WANT TO GO TO HIGHSTONES?
DO YOU KNOW OF ANOTHER MOONSTONE?
I WANT YOU TO COME WITH ME.
WHITESTORM CAN TAKE CHARGE WHILE WE'RE GONE.
WHO ELSE IS COMING WITH US?
NO ONE.

WE'LL HAVE TO TRAVEL THROUGH WINDCLAN TERRITORY. ARE YOU SURE IT'S SAFE TO--
HISS!
WHY ARE YOU TRYING TO DISSUADE ME?
EITHER YOU COME WITH ME OR I GO ALONE!
I MUST SPEAK WITH STARCLAN!
WAIT, SHE'S ONLY TAKING YOU?
HOW ARE YOU GOING TO PROTECT HER?
YOU'RE NO TIGERCLAW!
IT'S A GOOD THING HE ISN'T!
PAFF!
SHE PROBABLY HOPES TO NOT BE NOTICED BY A PATROL.
NOD!
THE LESS ATTENTION FROM WINDCLAN, THE BETTER.

FIREHEART!
CAN I COME WITH YOU?
CLOUDPAW, I ASKED YOU TO GO HUNTING WITH RUNNINGWIND TODAY--
BUT I WENT HUNTING YESTERDAY!
THE CLAN NEEDS TO EAT EVERY DAY.
GO!
okay, okay...

FIREHEART, I MADE THE RIGHT DECISION, BRINGING YOU INTO THE CLAN.
NO OTHER WARRIOR HAS YOUR SENSE OF LOYALTY AND COURAGE.
BLUESTAR, EVERY CAT IN THUNDERCLAN RESPECTS THE WARRIOR CODE JUST AS MUCH AS I DO.
OH?
THEN WHY WERE YOU THE ONLY CAT WHO OPPOSED TIGERCLAW?

I WAS THE ONLY CAT WHO KNEW HE KILLED REDTAIL.

GRAYSTRIPE KNEW, DIDN'T HE?
BUT IT WAS *YOU* WHO SAVED ME.

WE SHOULD BE CAREFUL NOT TO BE SPOTTED.
STARCLAN GRANTS ME RIGHT OF ACCESS TO THE MOONSTONE.

INTRUDERS!

WHAT ARE YOU DOING ON WINDCLAN TERRITORY?
WE ARE TRAVELING TO HIGHSTONES.
YOU HAVE NO RIGHT TO STOP US!
NO RIGHT?
YOU GAVE UP YOUR RIGHTS TO STARCLAN'S PROTECTION WHEN YOU TOOK IN BROKENTAIL!
BROKENTAIL IS DEAD.
DID YOU KILL HIM?
OF COURSE NOT.
THUNDERCLAN CATS AREN'T MURDERERS.
NO.
YOU JUST PROTECT THEM!

YOU MUST LET US PASS!!

BLUESTAR.
WE'RE TOO FAR FROM CAMP, AND THIS ISN'T A BATTLE WE'D WIN.
BUT I MUST SPEAK WITH STARCLAN--
ANOTHER TIME.

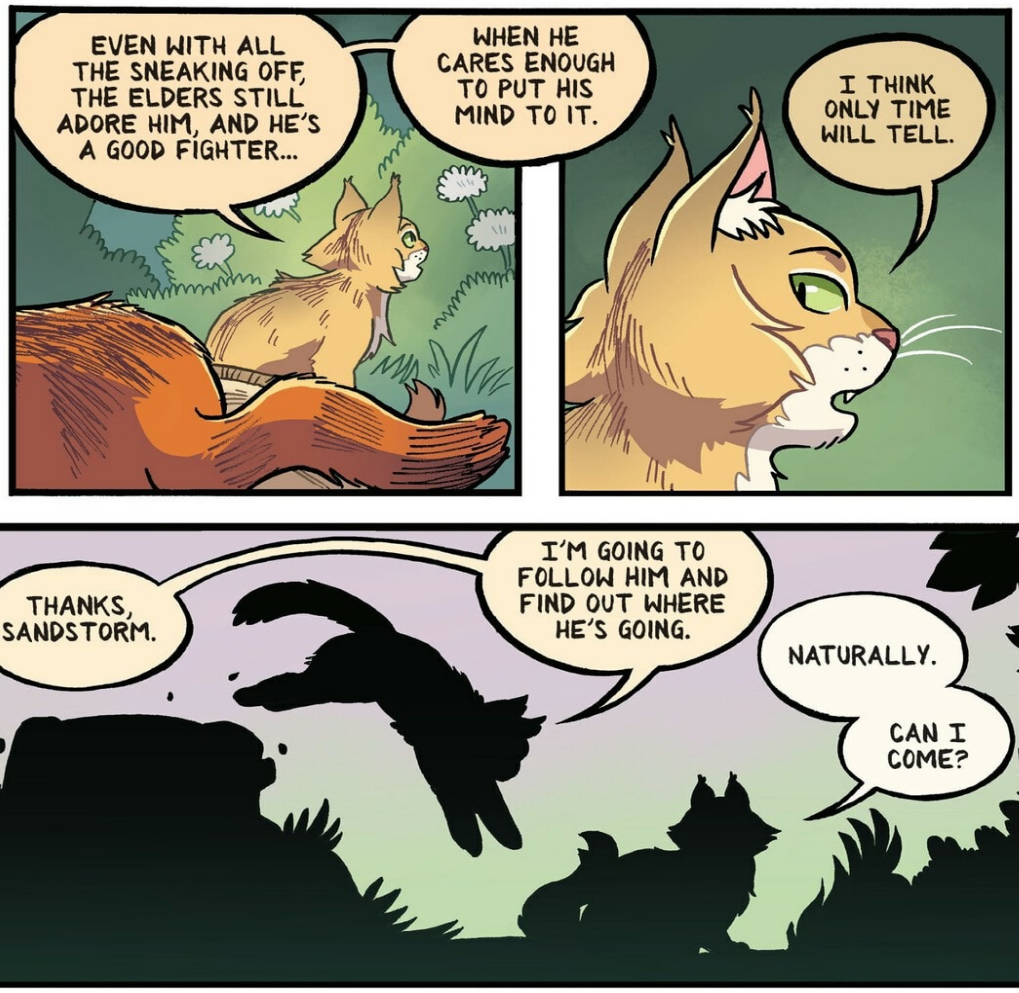
WE'LL LEAVE THIS TIME.
BUT YOU CAN'T KEEP ME FROM THE MOONSTONE FOREVER!

ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
STARCLAN DOESN'T WANT TO SHARE DREAMS WITH ME ANYMORE.
WHY ARE THEY SO ANGRY WITH MY CLAN?
WINDCLAN STOOD IN YOUR WAY, NOT STARCLAN.
YES.
OF COURSE.
OKAY, CLOUDPAW.
ATTACK ME!

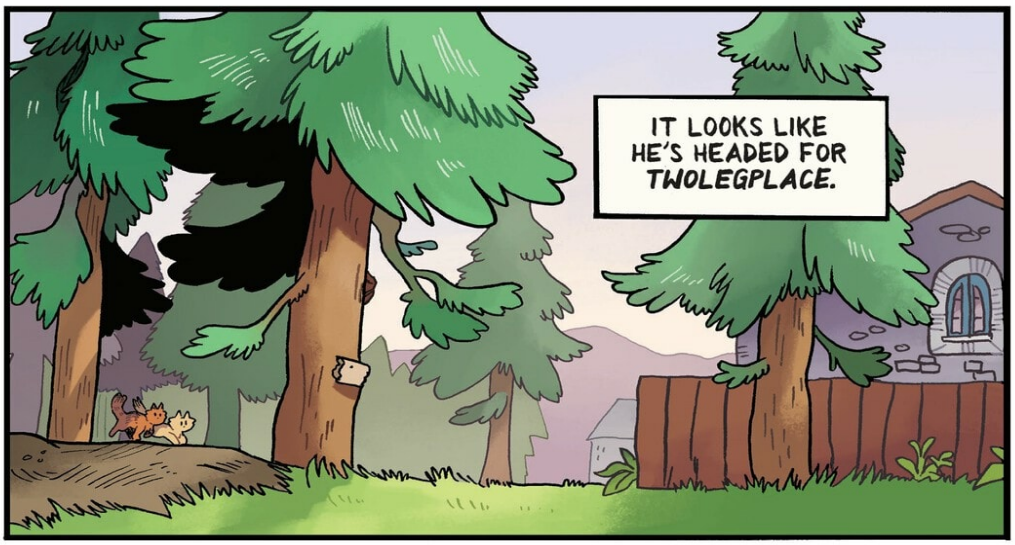
NOT BAD, BUT YOU'RE TOO SLOW.
PAFF!
...CLOUDPAW?
AAAAAAUGH!
YOU'VE KILLED ME!
STOP MESSING AROUND.

RUNNINGWIND TOLD ME YOU HUNTED WELL THE OTHER DAY, AND CAUGHT TWO FAT PIGEONS.
HE ALSO TOLD ME THAT YOU NEVER WENT BACK TO GET THEM AND BRING THEM BACK TO CAMP.
EYE ROLL
IT WAS JUST TWO STUPID BIRDS!
CLOUDPAW!
EVEN IN GREENLEAF, IT'S AGAINST THE WARRIOR CODE TO WASTE PREY!
YES, FIREHEART.
WHY DON'T I GO HUNT BY MYSELF?
I PROMISE I'LL GET SOMETHING GOOD FOR THE FRESH-KILL PILE TO MAKE UP FOR IT!
SURE. DON'T BE TOO LONG, OKAY?

AND THEN, ALL HE BROUGHT BACK WAS A MOUSE!
MHM.
AND IT WAS TINY!
I'VE SEEN BIGGER BUMBLEBEES THAN WHAT HE CAUGHT.
DID I MAKE THE WRONG DECISION, BRINGING CLOUDPAW TO THUNDERCLAN?
CLOUDPAW MAY BE YOUR KIN, BUT THAT DOESN'T MEAN HE HAS TO BE AS SERIOUS AS YOU ARE!
HE'LL GROW INTO IT, OR HE WON'T.


EVEN WITH ALL THE SNEAKING OFF, THE ELDERS STILL ADORE HIM, AND HE'S A GOOD FIGHTER...
WHEN HE CARES ENOUGH TO PUT HIS MIND TO IT.
I THINK ONLY TIME WILL TELL.
THANKS, SANDSTORM.
I'M GOING TO FOLLOW HIM AND FIND OUT WHERE HE'S GOING.
NATURALLY.
CAN I COME?
THERE'S A BOSSY DEPUTY BACK AT CAMP WHO'LL PUT ME ON PATROL--
HA HA
THERE HE IS!

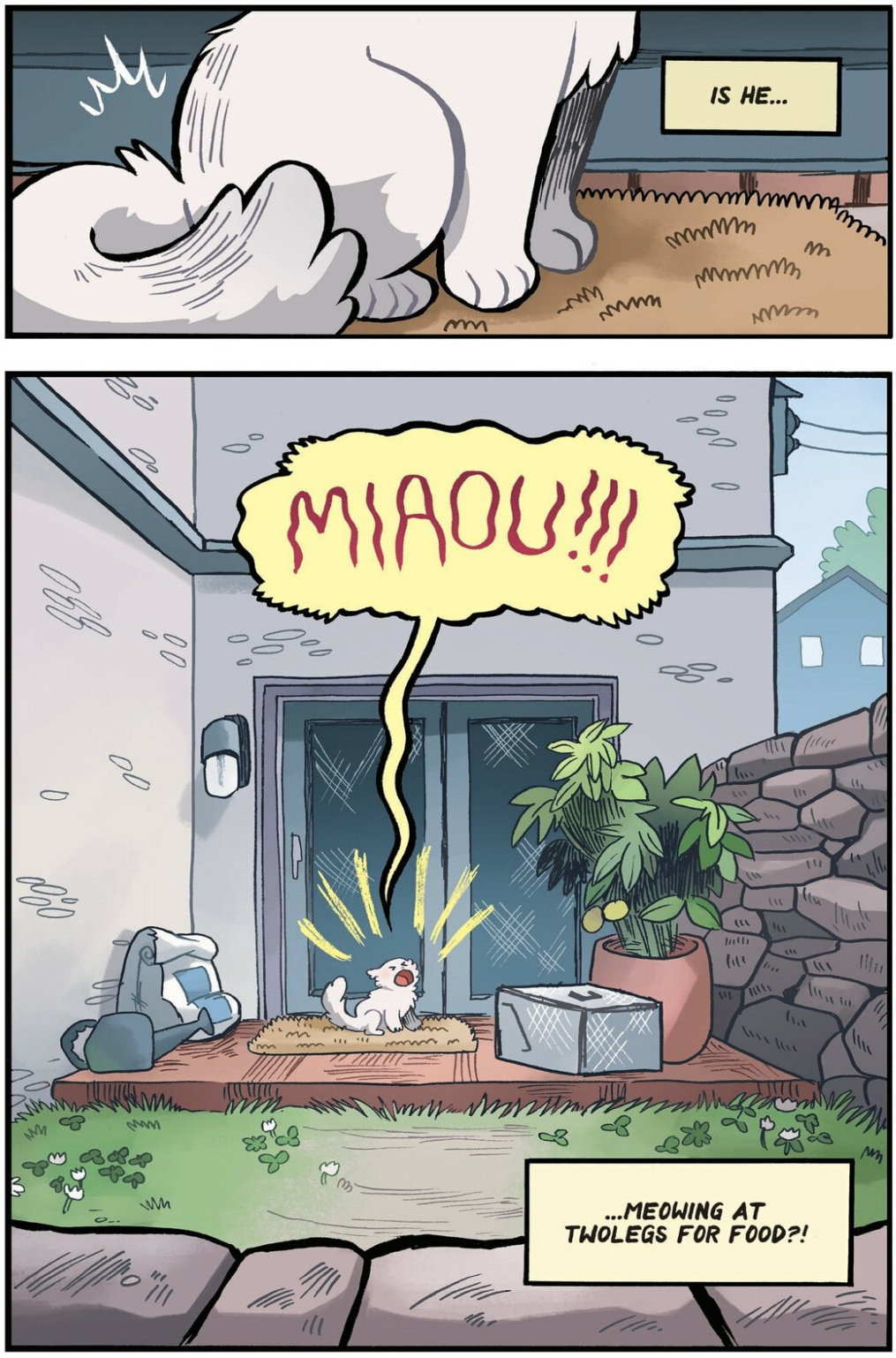
TALLPINES?


IT LOOKS LIKE HE'S HEADED FOR TWOLEGPLACE.

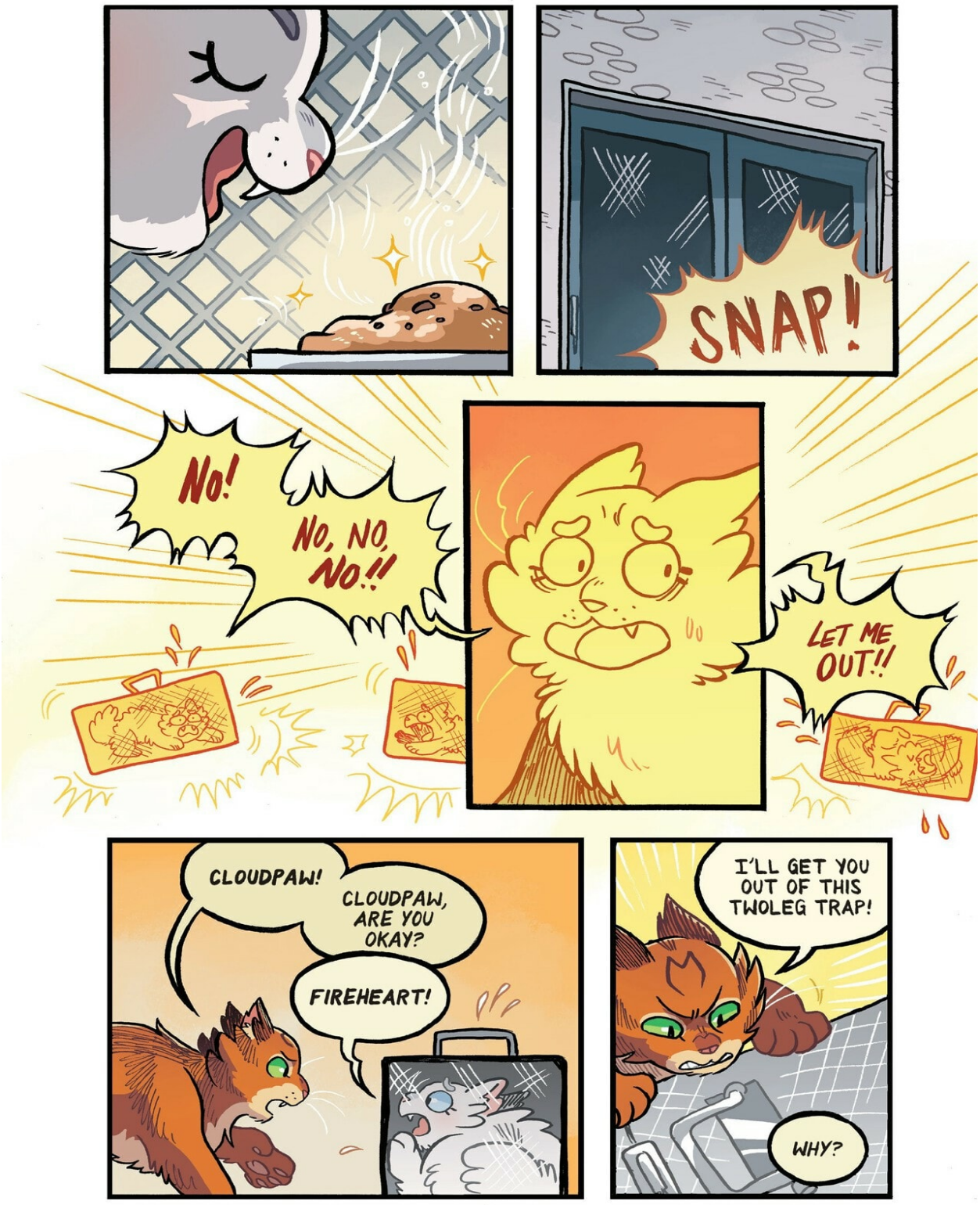
FIREHEART!

I HAVEN'T SEEN YOU IN AGES!
I WAS BEGINNING TO WORRY...
PRINCESS!
WHO'S YOUR FRIEND?
PRINCESS, THIS IS SANDSTORM.
SANDSTORM, THIS IS MY SISTER, PRINCESS.
HAVE YOU SEEN CLOUDPAW LATELY?
NO.
I'VE SMELLED HIM IN THE AREA, BUT HE HASN'T VISITED ME.
IS HE OKAY?
OH, UM, YES.
BUSY WITH ALL THAT TRAINING, I EXPECT!
WELL, I WON'T KEEP YOU WARRIORS ANY LONGER.

I SMELL HIM--
THIS WAY!
THERE!
NO...


IS HE...
MIAOU!!!
...MEOWING AT TWOLEGS FOR FOOD?!

FIREHEART, WAIT.
CLOUDPAW MIGHT BE *HAPPIER* THIS WAY.
BUT...
MOW!
MOW!
MOW!
AFTER ALL, HE DIDN'T *CHOOSE* TO BECOME A FOREST CAT LIKE YOU DID.
HIS MOTHER GAVE HIM TO THUNDERCLAN AS A KIT.


SNAP!
No!
No, NO, NO!!
LET ME OUT!!
CLOUDPAW!
CLOUDPAW, ARE YOU OKAY?
FIREHEART!
I'LL GET YOU OUT OF THIS TWOLEG TRAP!
WHY?

HE'S BEEN COMING HERE FOR TWOLEG FOOD, RIGHT?
DO YOU WANT THEM TO TAKE YOU AWAY TO BE A KITTYPET, THEN?
N-No!
I JUST--
IT WAS AN EASY MEAL!
LIFE IN THE FOREST IS A FIGHT FOR SURVIVAL...
BUT...
I LEARNED MY LESSON!
I WOULD RATHER BE HUNGRY FOR A HUNDRED LEAF-BARES...
...THAN BE CAPTURED AND TAKEN AWAY FROM THUNDERCLAN!

I THINK HE'S LEARNED HIS LESSON.
FIREHEART...
YOU KNOW HOW TO OPEN A TWOLEG TRAP,
RIGHT?
H-HANG IN THERE, CLOUDPAW!
CLOUDPAW?
PRINCESS.
WE'RE IN THE MIDDLE OF SOMETHING URGENT HERE--
TINK!
TINK!

HOW DID SHE KNOW HOW TO DO THAT...?
THE ONLY THINGS KITTYPETS DO ARE SLEEP AND WATCH TWOLEGS.
SHE MUST HAVE LEARNED THAT FROM HERS.
PURR PURR
THANK YOU, PRINCESS...
FIREHEART.
I'M SORRY.
I'M GOING TO MAKE IT UP TO YOU AND ALL OF THUNDERCLAN.
I'LL WORK MY TAIL OFF TO BECOME THE GREATEST WARRIOR IN ALL THE CLANS!

I'LL HOLD YOU TO THAT.

A HOT, DRY GREENLEAF.
I WONDER HOW GRAYSTRIPE IS DOING IN RIVERCLAN?

FINALLY, OUR DEPUTY RETURNS.
WHO'S LEADING THE SUNHIGH PATROL?
UH...
LONGTAIL WILL LEAD IT.
SNRK!
LONGTAIL'S OUT WITH HIS APPRENTICE TODAY...
I SHOULD HAVE REMEMBERED THAT!
THEN RUNNING-WIND WILL GO WITH BRACKENFUR AND DUSTPELT.
BRACKENFUR'S STILL WOUNDED FROM THE BATTLE.
OK, THEN RUNNINGWIND CAN HUNT WITH MOUSEFUR AND SANDSTORM.
AND THE SUNSET PATROL?

I WILL LEAD THE EVENING PATROL.
SWIFTPAW AND LONGTAIL CAN JOIN YOU WHEN THEY RETURN!
THANKS, WHITESTORM...
DON'T MIND DARKSTRIPE.
HE, LONGTAIL, AND DUSTPELT WERE CLOSE TO TIGERCLAW, BUT I DON'T DOUBT THEIR LOYALTY.
TRY TELLING THAT TO BLUESTAR.
ASHKIT AND FERN-KIT STILL NEED MENTORS, AND SHE ASKED ME TO CHOOSE THEM.
I WAS THINKING DUSTPELT AND DARKSTRIPE WOULD BE GOOD CHOICES.
OH?

DUSTPELT WANTS TO PROVE HIMSELF, AND DARKSTRIPE IS AN EXPERIENCED WARRIOR.
CHOOSING THEM ALSO SHOWS I'M NOT JUST PICKING FAVORITES.
THAT'S A WISE DECISION.
THANKS!
I HELPED HIM MAKE IT!
CINDERPELT!
CONGRATULATIONS ON GETTING YOUR MEDICINE CAT NAME.
YELLOWFANG HAS ME RUNNING WET MOSS ALL OVER THE CAMP TO KEEP THE ELDERS AND QUEENS FROM HEATSTROKE.
THIS GREEN-LEAF HEAT IS RELENTLESS!

DO YOU WANT ME TO GET CLOUDPAW TO HELP YOU?
HE'S ALREADY TAKING CARE OF THE ELDERS.
SO THERE I WAS, HUNTING BY TWOLEG PLACE--
SPLAT!
WHEN THEY SUDDENLY TRIED TO STEAL ME!
SO I HISSED AND SPAT AND FOUGHT!
NOTHING COULD KEEP ME FROM MY CLAN.
BLUESTAR JUST RETURNED FROM THE EARLY PATROL.
WHY DON'T YOU TAKE HER SOME FRESH-KILL?
BLUESTAR?

I WAS WONDERING IF YOU WERE HUNGRY...
YOU ONLY BRING FRESH-KILL TO MY DEN WHEN YOU THINK I'M DYING.
I MAY NOT HAVE BEEN FEELING MY BEST LATELY, BUT I'M NOT MADE OF COBWEBS.
AFTER ALL...
...I AM STILL THE LEADER OF THUNDERCLAN.

SPOTTEDLEAF?
WHERE ARE YOU?
THUNDERCLAN IS IN GREAT DANGER!
WAKE UP!
FIREHEART...
SPOTTEDLEAF?
...smoke...?
FIRE!!
THE FOREST IS ON FIRE!
FIREHEART!

FIRE!!
WE HAVE TO LEAVE THE FOREST AT ONCE!
FROSTFUR!
TELL BLUESTAR THE FOREST IS ON FIRE!
NOD!
WE HAVE TO GET OUT OF THE CAMP!
HEAD FOR THE RIVER!
KEEP AN EYE ON YOUR DENMATES AND DON'T LOSE SIGHT OF EACH OTHER!

WAIT!
IS ANY CAT MISSING?
WHERE ARE HALFTAIL AND PATCHPELT?
THEY DIDN'T LEAVE WITH US...
I CAN'T FIND BRAMBLEKIT!
HE WAS JUST BEHIND ME WHEN I WAS CLIMBING OUT OF THE DEN--
THEY MUST ALL STILL BE IN CAMP!
I'LL FIND THEM.
YOU CAN'T GO BACK THERE!

I HAVE TO.
THEN LET ME COME WITH YOU!
NO.
I NEED YOU, WHITESTORM, AND DARKSTRIPE TO MAKE SURE EVERY CAT GETS TO THE RIVER SAFELY.
I'LL COME.
I MAY BE OLD, BUT THERE'S STRENGTH IN THESE BONES YET.
CINDERPELT.
THE CLAN WILL NEED YOUR HEALING SKILLS.
NOD
GO WITH THEM.
YOU HEARD HIM!
HEAD FOR THE RIVER!

PATCHPELT!
HALFTAIL!
BRAMBLEKIT!

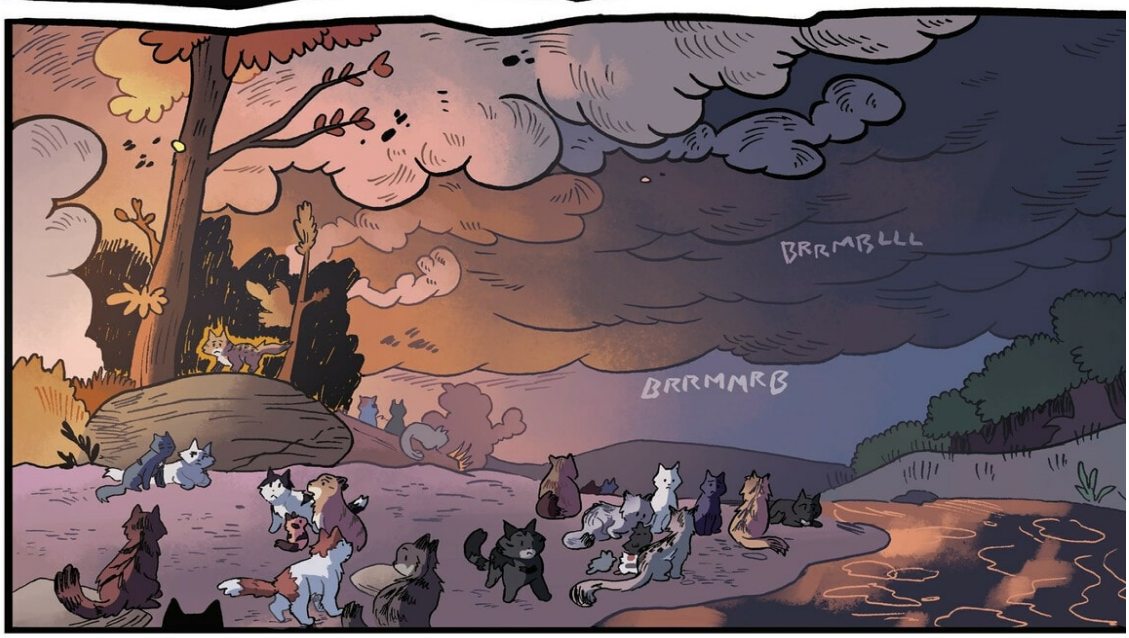
PATCHPELT MUST HAVE COLLAPSED WHILE TRYING TO GET HALFTAIL OUT.
WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR!?
LET'S GET THEM TO SAFETY!
RIGHT!
COFF COFF
YELLOWFANG!

HELP!
BRAMBLEKIT...
TIGERCLAW'S SON!

GOTCHA!
CR RAC K!

SCREECH!

YELLOWFANG!!
THERE'S NO WAY BACK INTO THE CAMP.
THIS ISN'T OVER. THUNDERCLAN STILL NEEDS ME.
I HAVE TO KEEP MOVING!
FOLLOW ME!


BRRMBLLL
BRRMMRB

HE BREATHED IN TOO MUCH SMOKE.
HE'S DEAD.
WE'VE LOST ANOTHER CAT.
BUT MY *GRIEF* WON'T HELP THE CLAN.
WHERE'S *YELLOWFANG?*
I LOST HER IN THE SMOKE WHILE SHE WAS RESCUING HALFTAIL.
I TRIED TO GO BACK FOR HER, BUT...
...I'M SORRY, CINDERPELT.
YOOWWWWL!
THE FIRE IS STILL COMING THIS WAY!

WE MUST KEEP GOING, ACROSS THE RIVER.
THE FIRE CAN'T REACH US THERE, AND WE'LL BE SAFE.
EVEN IF THE STORM COMES NOW, IT WON'T PUT OUT THE FIRE IMMEDIATELY.
WE HAVE TO GO NOW, OR WE WON'T OUTRUN THE FLAMES.
HURRY!
RMMBBL
BBRMM
BBRRRMBL

HOW COULD THIS HAPPEN TO OUR TERRITORY?
TO OUR CLAN?
HAS STARCLAN...
...FORSAKEN US?
BLUESTAR, COME ON!

WE HAVE TO GO, SMALLEAR!
YEEEOWWL!!

LEOPARDFUR!
GRAB!

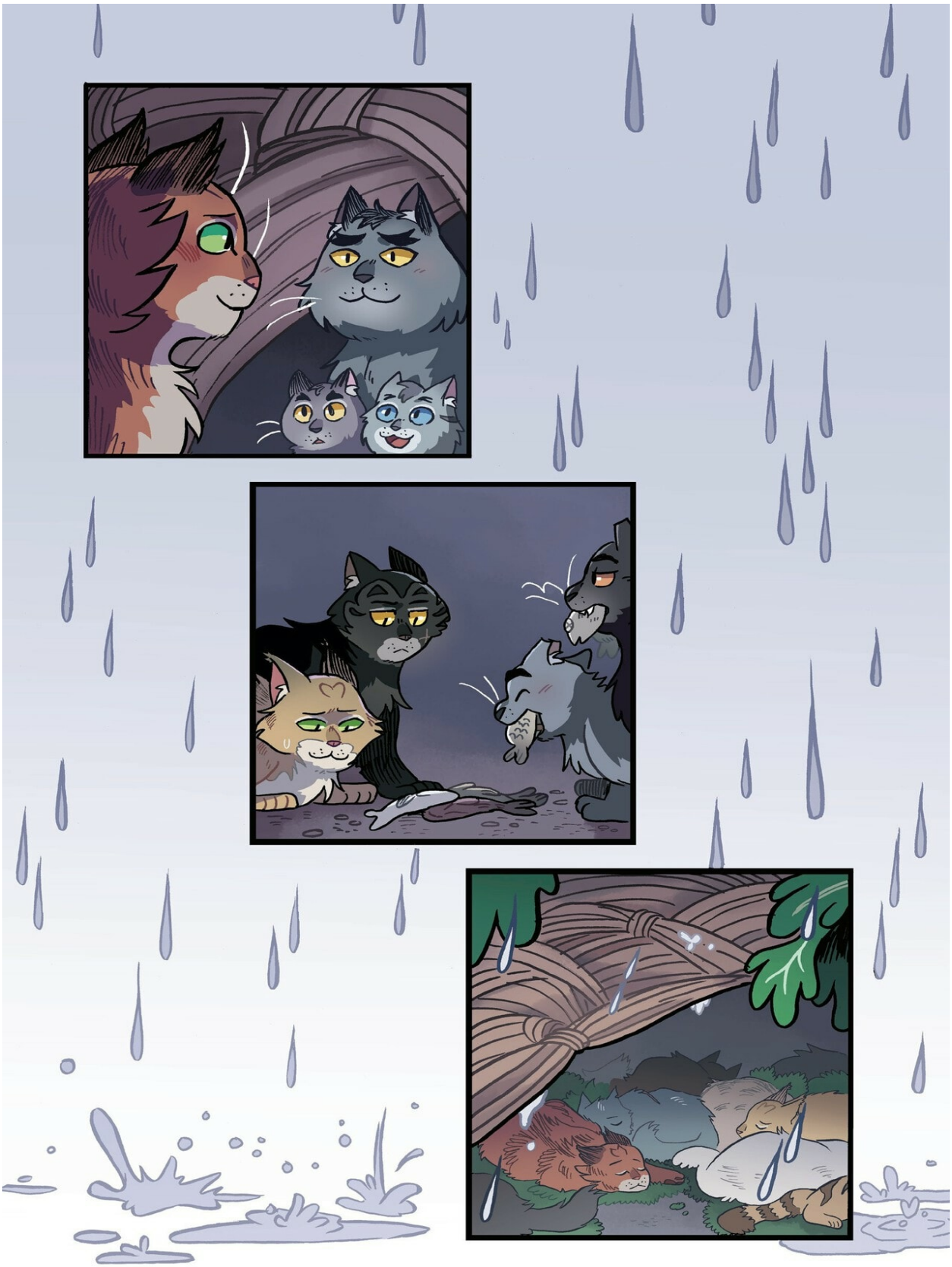
IS THAT EVERY CAT?
I THINK SO.

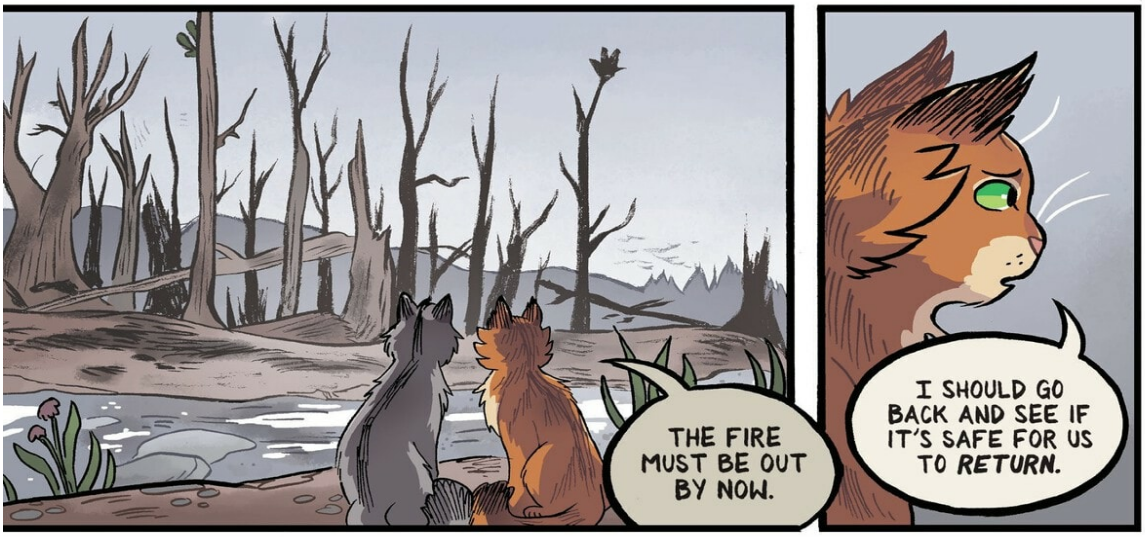
YOU CAN SHELTER BACK AT CAMP.
THE *RIVERCLAN* CAMP?

UNLESS YOU'D RATHER RETURN TO *YOUR OWN.*

LEOPARDFUR!
IS RIVERCLAN *SAFE* FROM THE FIRE?

THE FIRE WILL NOT CROSS INTO RIVERCLAN.
BUT *THUNDERCLAN* TERRITORY WAS TOTALLY ENGULFED.
LEOPARDFUR WAS RIGHT TO HELP YOU.
ALL THE CLANS FEAR FIRE.
YOU MAY STAY UNTIL IT IS SAFE FOR YOU TO RETURN.
PLIP!
PLIP!




THE FIRE MUST BE OUT BY NOW.
I SHOULD GO BACK AND SEE IF IT'S SAFE FOR US TO *RETURN*.

I'LL GO ASK CROOKEDSTAR FOR PERMISSION TO GO WITH YOU.
WHATEVER YOU FIND THERE, I DON'T WANT YOU TO FIND IT ALONE.

THANKS, GRAYSTRIPE.

UP AHEAD--
THAT'S THE GORSE TUNNEL!
THUNDERCLAN CAMP!

HALFTAIL...
I'LL BURY HIM.
KEEP LOOKING FOR YELLOWFANG.
NOD

YELLOWFANG?
COUGH!
FIREHEART...
...I'M GLAD IT'S YOU WHO CAME.

HH!
HHHHH
DID YOU SAVE PATCHPELT?
HHHH
HE BREATHED IN TOO MUCH SMOKE.
HALFTAIL, TOO.
BUT WE SAVED BRAMBLEKIT!
COUGH!
YOU'RE A BRAVE WARRIOR, FIREHEART.
I COULDN'T BE *PROUDER* OF YOU IF YOU WERE MY OWN SON, INSTEAD OF...
COUGH
COFF
...BROKENTAIL.

FIREHEART.
I KILLED BROKENTAIL.
HHH
I POISONED HIM WITH DEATHBERRIES.
HHHH
I WANTED HIM TO DIE.
HHHH
SAVE YOUR STRENGTH...
DON'T WASTE YOUR TIME.
HHHH
I'M GOING TO DIE NO MATTER WHAT, BUT I'M NOT AFRAID.
HHHHH
I'M READY FOR STARCLAN TO JUDGE ME HOW THEY WILL.
COUGH!
JUST LISTEN.

HHH
THANK YOU FOR BRINGING ME TO THUNDERCLAN.
HHHHH
TELL BLUESTAR I HAVE ALWAYS BEEN GRATEFUL FOR THE HOME SHE GAVE ME.
HHHH
THIS IS A GOOD PLACE TO DIE.

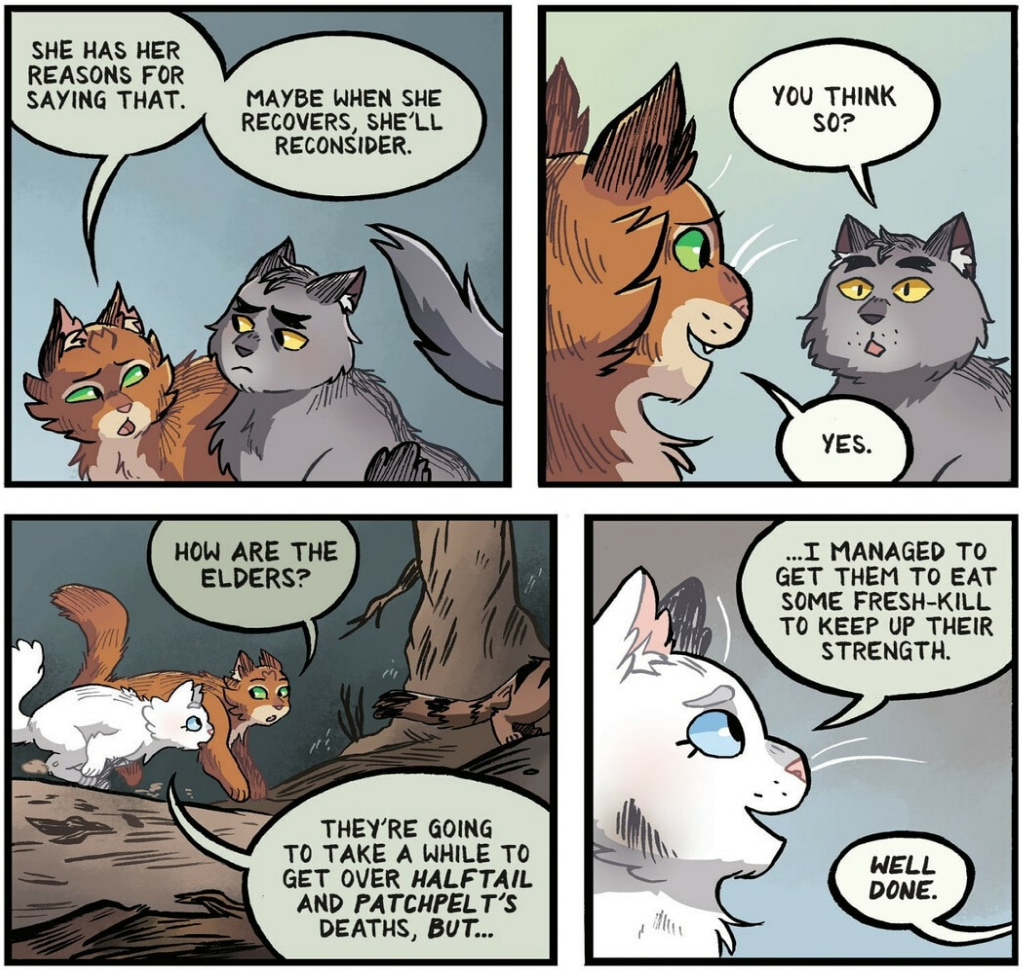
MY ONLY REGRET...

...IS THAT I WILL MISS WATCHING YOU BECOME...
...WHAT STARCLAN DESTINED YOU TO BE.

YELLOWFANG...
NO CAT COULD EVER FORGET THE GOOD YOU'VE DONE.

THANK YOU FOR EVERYTHING.

SPOTTEDLEAF SAID FIRE WOULD SAVE OUR CLAN.
BUT IT HAS DESTROYED US INSTEAD.
MAYBE I SHOULD STAY WITH THUNDERCLAN FOR A WHILE, JUST TO HELP REBUILD?
NO.
YOU CHOSE TO BE LOYAL TO YOUR KITS, NOT YOUR CLAN.
HISS!
LIVE WITH YOUR DECISION.


SHE HAS HER REASONS FOR SAYING THAT.
MAYBE WHEN SHE RECOVERS, SHE'LL RECONSIDER.
YOU THINK SO?
YES.
HOW ARE THE ELDERS?
THEY'RE GOING TO TAKE A WHILE TO GET OVER *HALFTAIL* AND *PATCHPELT'S* DEATHS, *BUT*...
...I MANAGED TO GET THEM TO EAT SOME FRESH-KILL TO KEEP UP THEIR STRENGTH.
WELL DONE.

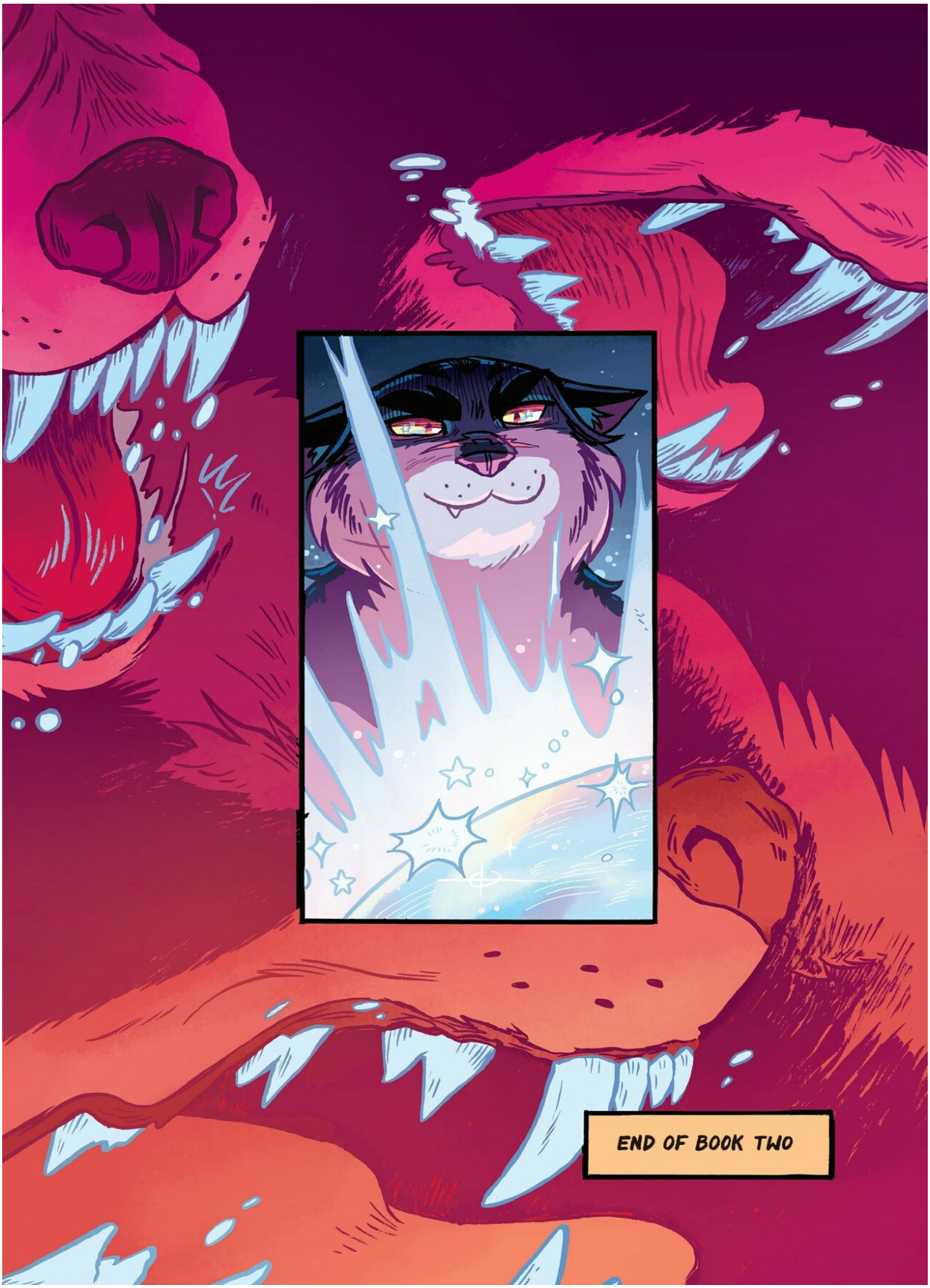
WE SHOULD SEND OUT A BORDER PATROL AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.
TIGERCLAW MIGHT TAKE ADVANTAGE OF WHAT HAPPENED.

AFTER THAT, WE MUST REBUILD THE CAMP.
I KNOW IT LOOKS DEVASTATED NOW, BUT IT'S HIGH GREENLEAF.
IT WILL *REGROW.*
FIREHEART IS RIGHT.
THE FOREST WILL GROW BACK *CHANGED*, BUT *STRONGER.*
WHY ISN'T *BLUESTAR* TELLING US THIS?

SHE'S EXHAUSTED. SHE NEEDS REST, BUT SHE'LL RECOVER.
JUST LIKE THE FOREST--
YOWWWL!
HAS STARCLAN NO PITY?!
CATS OF THUNDERCLAN!

HEAR MY WORDS AS WELL, STARCLAN!
FROM NOW ON, MY DREAMS ARE MY OWN--
I WILL NEVER GO TO THE MOONSTONE AGAIN!!

I HAVE TRIED TO UNDERSTAND THEIR CRUELTY, BUT NO MORE!!
STARCLAN HAS DECLARED WAR ON MY CLAN...
AND I WILL NEVER FORGIVE THEM!!


END OF BOOK TWO

WINDCLAN
SHADOWCLAN
RIVERCLAN
THUNDERCLAN
HIGHSTONES
CARRIONPLACE
BARLEY'S FARM
SHADOWCLAN CAMP
WINDCLAN CAMP
OWLTREE
GREAT SYCAMORE
FOURTREES
SNAKEROCKS
THUNDERCLAN CAMP
SWIMMINGROCKS
SANDY HOLLOW
TALLPINES
RIVERCLAN CAMP
TREECUT PLACE
TWOLEGPLACE

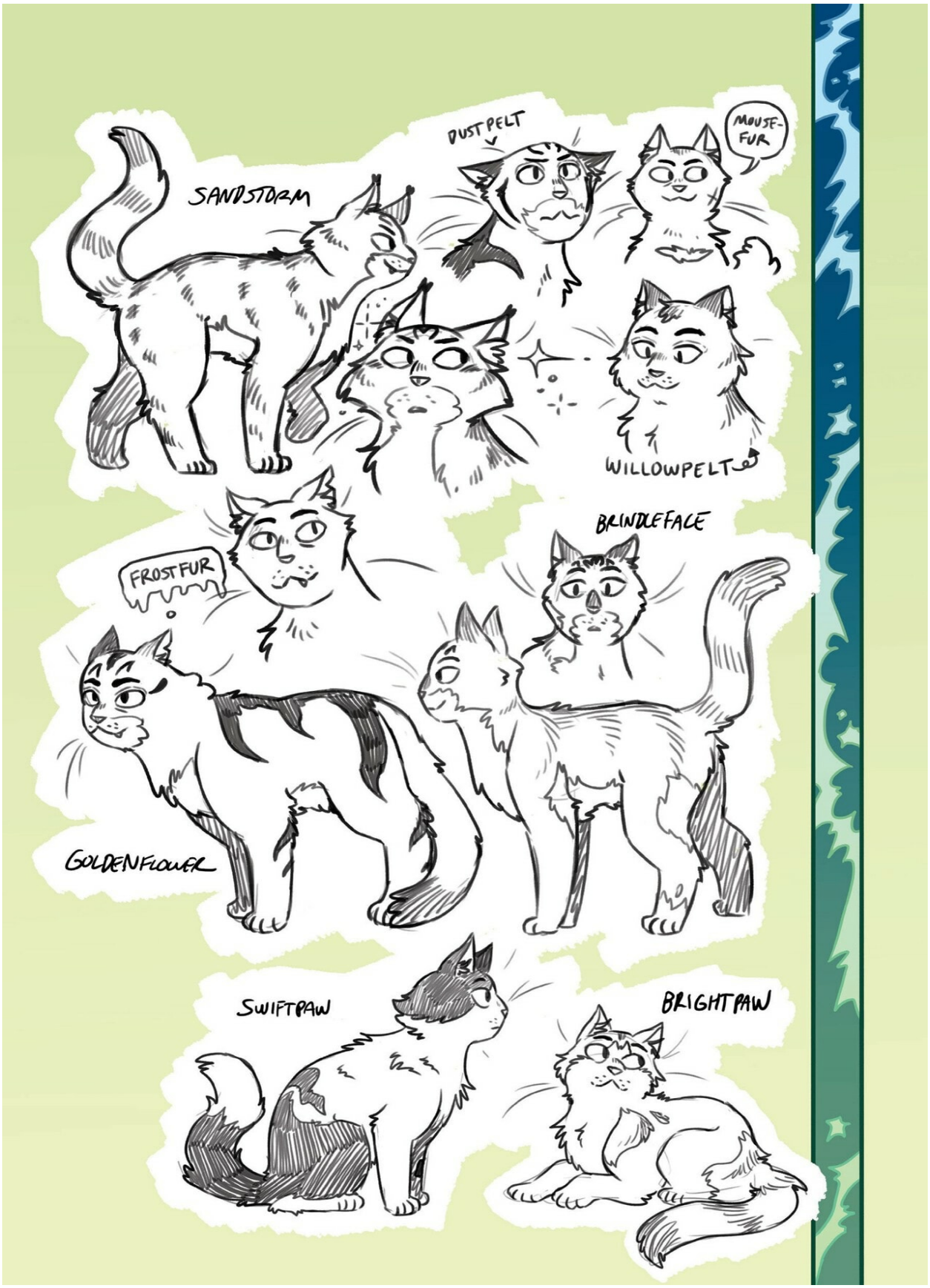
CHARACTER SHEETS

There are a LOT of cats to keep track of in Warriors! I keep a stack of sketches of what every major character looks like and what scars they have on hand for reference.

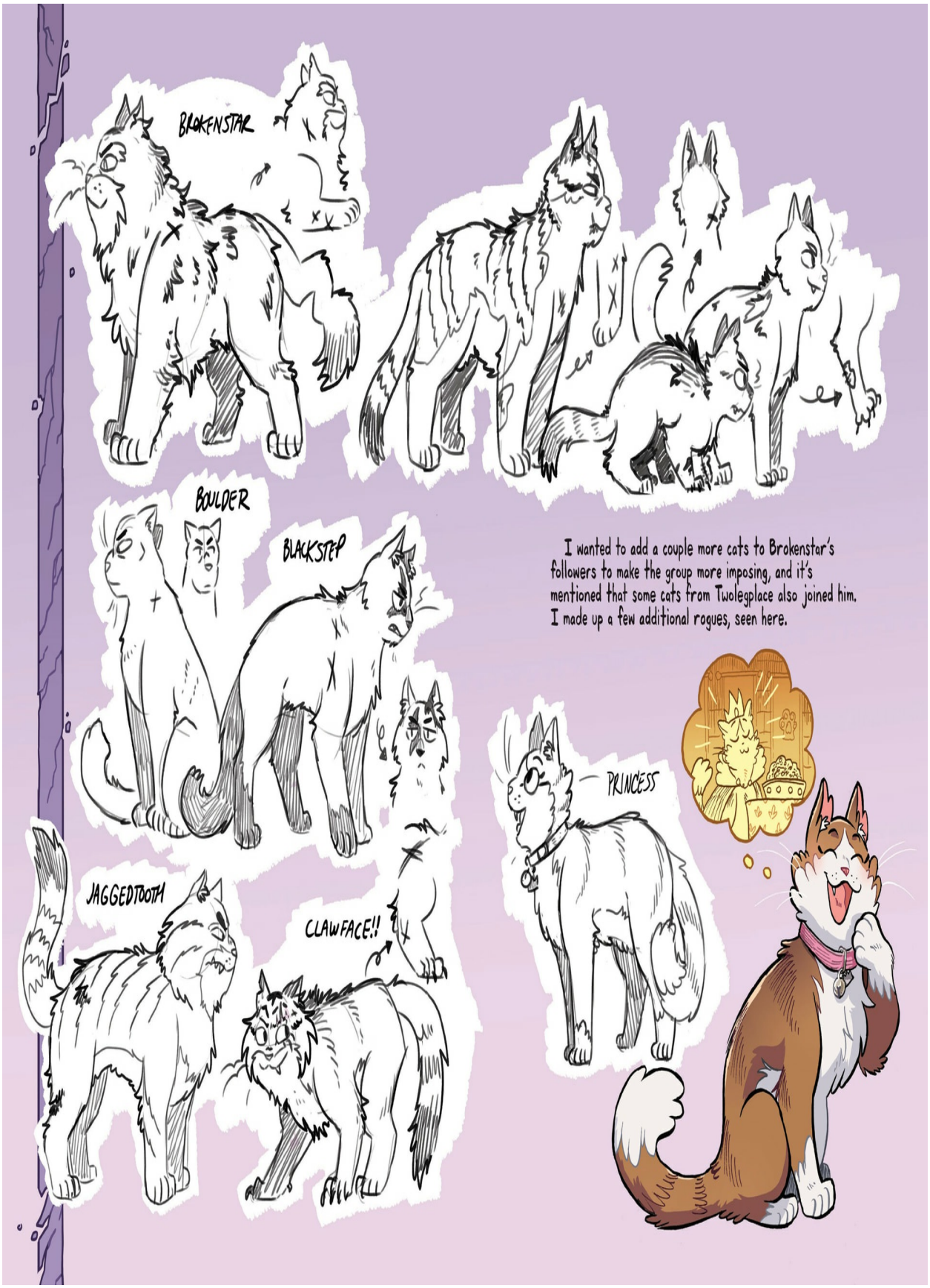
This volume focused on ThunderClan, RiverClan, and Brokenstar's rogue cats the most...

CINDERPAW
BRACKENPAW
YELLOWFANG
CLOUDPAW

LONGTAIL
WHITESTORM
RUNNINGWIND!
DARKSTRIPE
SPOTTEDLEAF
PATCHPELT
HALFTAIL
DAPPLE-
TAIL
ONE-
EYE

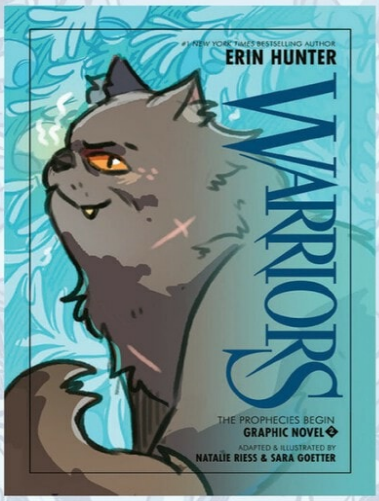

SANDSTORM
DUSTPELT
MOUSE-FUR
WILLOWPELT
FROSTFUR
BRINDLEFACE
GOLDENFLOWER
SWIFTPAW
BRIGHTPAW

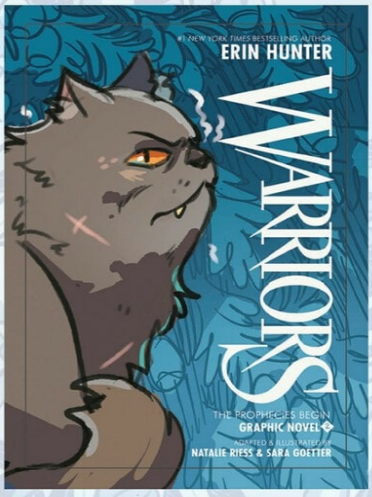
LEOPARDFUR
CROOKEDSTAR
OAKHEART
GRAYFOOL
SILVERSTREAM
MISTYFOOT
STONEFUR
MEW!!!
BLACKCLAW
MUDFUR
RIVERCLAN CAMP (ROUGH LAYOUT)



I wanted to add a couple more cats to Brokenstar's followers to make the group more imposing, and it's mentioned that some cats from Twolegplace also joined him. I made up a few additional rogues, seen here.

ALTERNATE COVER SKETCHES





Don't miss the next Warriors graphic novel, which concludes the Prophecies Begin arc and covers the novels

A DANGEROUS PATH and **THE DARKEST HOUR!**

And catch up on the first installment:

ERIN HUNTER is inspired by a love of cats and a fascination with the ferocity of the natural world. She is the author of the Warriors, Seekers, Survivors, Bravelands, and Bamboo Kingdom series. Erin lives in the UK.

SARA GOETTER & NATALIE RIESS are a comic-making duo from Pennsylvania. They currently live in Texas with their cat, Tilly, who inspired many of the drawings in this book! Their other titles together include *Dungeon Critters* and *The Bawk-Ness Monster*. Sara takes inking very seriously and Natalie loves the colors green and pink.

Allegiances are shifting among the Clans of warrior cats that roam the forest. With tensions rising, friends can become enemies overnight, and some cats are willing to kill to get what they want.

Fireheart is determined to find out the truth about the mysterious death of the former ThunderClan deputy Redtail. But as he searches for answers, he uncovers secrets that might be better left hidden. . . .

The Warriors series comes to life in this graphic novel adaptation of the third and fourth Warriors books—*Forest of Secrets* and *Rising Storm*.

DON'T MISS THE FIRST WARRIORS GRAPHIC NOVEL

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A WORKING PARTNERS BOOK

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